

TO: Executive Committee

DATE: 05/04/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Projects

PROPOSED MOTION(S): For discussion only.

DISCUSSION: In anticipation of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the Department of Workforce Investment is preparing for implementation. Following are three projects that are being initiated/discussed:

1. An additional cohort for Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) at Merced College. The cohort would be scheduled to run from January 20, 2010 to May 20, 2011. The cost of the training would be approximately \$243,849 based on this year's projected numbers. The program would support 15 LVNs.

2. An on-site Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) training for employer staff. The training would serve up to 100 participants, and would cost approximately \$207,691 based on projected numbers from last year. The training would take place from January 20, 2010 to May 10, 2011.

3. Involves the implementation of a Medical Assistant Career Lattice project. The project began with a grant-funded regional study to determine Medical Assistant (MA) training qualifications and retention needs. The possibility of developing an educational lattice from MA curriculum to local nursing programs was researched. The results from the study reinforced the need for building an educational/career lattice for MAs. The study also determined there would be significant benefits to employers, employees, and the community by developing a career lattice that would include nationally recognized credentials along a well defined career path of healthcare services. ARRA funds would enable the Department to coordinate with healthcare service organizations, educators, professional associations, labor unions, and government licensing agencies in order to implement this career lattice program.

ATTACHMENT(S): None