

Digest of Green Reports and Studies

Title	<i>The Strategic Opportunity to Build a Green Workforce in LA</i>
Author	None listed
Organization	Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI), Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC), The Los Angeles Infrastructure and Sustainable Jobs Collaborative
Author Contact	N/A
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Summary	This report presents results from a case study that was conducted for the Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI) and Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC) in February 2008. "This report responds to the interest and enthusiasm of the Forum participants (over 200 employers and investors from the Los Angeles infrastructure sector) by organizing the findings from the Sustainable Energy Forums, recent labor market research, program documents, and primary interviews into a suggested Regional Education and Training Program." Facts about the green sector in Los Angeles are presented, followed by recommendations, which include a need for increased "green" training and education in the County.
Key Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Los Angeles County has proportionately less green sector firms than both California and the U.S. • "The largest number of green employers in the Los Angeles area include: solar power, environmental consulting, waste disposal and alternative fuel vehicles." • The public sector offers the greatest potential for green jobs. • The demand for skilled green workers is increasing, and predicted to be much greater in the future. • "General skills remain huge barriers to employability, including general math and science, problem solving, communication, interpersonal and technical writing skills." • "The Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) small learning communities (SLCs)/career academies offer the best opportunity for filling the long-term needs of this emerging sector." • "Community and labor programs are essential partners in a comprehensive education and training strategy, offering entry points and pathways for unemployed and underemployed individuals not enrolled in an educational institution."
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Support the growth and development of the K-12 educational system to increase an eco-ethic (environmental consciousness and behaviors), as well as career awareness, exposure, and opportunities among L.A.'s youth." • Los Angeles County should grow and expand regional clusters at community colleges that promote education and a "school-labor-community partnership." • Los Angeles County needs to increase the amount of green training available at all levels of education. • The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) schools need to focus their programs on the green sector. This can be done with the help of green industry insiders. • Community colleges should "green all green-related courses." • "Create a focus on green technology small business development." This could include "business certification training, involving basic, short-term introductory technical compliance training." • "Build new curricula programs and courses to meet immediate and growing demand in" all aspects of the green sector.
Definition of "Green"	For the purpose of this study, the definition of green jobs is borrowed from Pinderhughes; "green jobs" can be viewed as skilled and professional jobs where specific training is provided to produce products and services that directly improve environmental quality."
Methodology	Interview, Survey, Literature Research
Data Sources Cited	SCOPE: Union Apprenticeship Survey Trends,
Report Geography	Los Angeles
Green Occupations Cited	Building contractor, solar installation and technician, deconstruction worker, energy auditor, PV/HC systems operations and maintenance technician, renewable energy technician, water and liquid waster treatment plant and systems operator.

Green Industries Cited	Transportation, construction, utility/energy efficiency, utility/water conservation.
Keywords	Community College; K-12 education.
Legislation Cited	LACCD Prop A/AA Bond Program, Green Retrofit Initiative , Green Jobs Act of 2007, Global Warming Emission Cap/AB 32
Bibliography (Y/N)	Y
Reviewer Name/Org	D. Costello / Labor Market Information Division, California

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