

## Energy Construction & Utilities

California Community Colleges  
Workforce & Economic Development

Engage. Enroll. Employ.

POWERED BY



California  
Community  
Colleges

## Contract Education

Contract Education is one of the many tools that the ECU Sector leverages for engaging industry with the Community Colleges. CE brings our industry partners directly to the table to address immediate workforce and hiring needs in an agile and responsive manner – it has proven to serve as an effective means to quickly pilot and test training programs, and gauge employers' commitment to and capacity for workforce development and strategic partnerships.

After successfully launching the first three Facility Management training programs in California, ECU furthered its relationship with the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) by creating a "Facility Management Skills Academy" to train incumbent Google and Cushman & Wakefield facility managers. The first pilot launched in June 2018 comprised of 17 Google and C&W staff, which included pre-survey needs assessment and gap analysis to inform curriculum. Seven sessions covered strategic planning, culture, and customer service. A second cohort will likely launch in Fall 2019. Phase two and three are in development, whereby participants can progress to subsequent training with curriculum based on IFMA's "Essentials of Facility Management" program, ultimately leading to a Facility Management Professional (FMP) credential. The initiative creates an ongoing professional development pipeline and has strengthened the cross-sector ecosystem comprised of the ECU team, IFMA industry professionals, CE, and Google.



ECU collaborated with San Diego Gas & Electric to develop training programs for gas and electric distribution planners and designers to address a growing labor shortage of qualified workers. These workers earn an average of \$91,500 per year, and currently SDG&E spends \$1M per cohort of 20 to train them internally. In the proposed pilot training, Community Colleges will provide classroom instruction in Project Management, Customer Service, and Technical Skills, with learning outcomes provided by SDG&E. SDG&E will provide on-the-job training to supplement classroom work. An initial cohort of 35 will be trained at a cost of \$73,000 through Contract Education, with SDG&E providing relevant curriculum and subject matter



experts. ECU is currently working with Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas & Electric and others to potentially scale the model statewide.

ECU partnered with the California Construction and Industrial Materials Association (CALCIMA) and College of the Desert to develop a 48-hour Employment Bridge training program, targeting students enrolled in their final semester of Diesel Mechanic, Auto Technician, Industrial Maintenance, and related programs. The program includes modules to allow colleges and participating businesses to assess candidates' aptitudes for various pathways within the Construction Materials industry, provided students with real-world exposure to the demands and opportunities of the field, assist students in resume development and interview preparation, and provide students the opportunity to learn the industry's culture. ECU is working with many of CalcIMA's 220 members statewide to explore scaling to Northern California and beyond to meet each region's unique hiring challenges.



SoCal Gas partnered with ECU to develop a Contract Education program for training Gas Appliance Technicians, drawing on CTE students in ECU technical fields, like HVAC. SoCal Gas is dealing with an annual shortage of 300 workers in jobs averaging \$91,500 per year. This "boot camp" style instructional program will recruit students in their last semester of CTE studies. Students will use electronic tools and testing equipment to assist gas company customers with appliance operation, venting, carbon monoxide testing, gas leak detection in piping systems and appliances, gas bill analysis, response to emergency incidents, appliance repair, and parts replacement. Technicians will be responsible for working on gas delivery pressure regulators and advanced gas meter delivery systems including diagnostics and repairs. SoCal Gas will provide curriculum, subject matter experts, supplies, and equipment. The program is free to qualifying final term students.

Learn More at [ECUSector.com](http://ECUSector.com)