

Memorandum

To: Frank Kobayashi, Associate Vice President, American River College (ARC)

From: Ebony J. Benzing, Research Manager, Center of Excellence (COE), North-Far North region

Date: April 18, 2019

Re: Program Endorsement Request for Office Modular System Level I

Background

ARC is seeking a program endorsement report from the COE for a proposed addition to its existing Carpentry Apprenticeship program. ARC would like to add another focus to this program – Office Modular Systems Technicians.

In January 2018, the COE prepared an extensive report entitled “Construction Cluster and Workforce Needs Assessment, Sacramento Region.” The findings and recommendations from that report should be used for the Office Modular Systems Technician program proposal at ARC. Furthermore, the COE provides updated occupational data for Carpenters (47-2031).

Findings

- There are almost 10,000 Carpenters in the 7-county Greater Sacramento region. Projected growth is strong, 11.0 percent, over the next five years. There are about 1,121 projected annual openings, including retirements and replacements.¹
- Carpenters are among the fastest growing occupations in the construction industry.
- Reported median hourly wages for Carpenters are just below the one adult, one child living wage of \$26.48 for Sacramento County.² Regional median hourly wages also tend to be lower than the North/Far North Region (\$25.53³) and the State (\$26.08⁴).
- From 2015 to 2018, regional community colleges across the North/Far North region conferred an average of 35 awards per year in Carpentry programs (TOP 0952.10⁵). ARC is the largest provider of Carpentry certificates and degrees in the region.

Recommendations

- Annual job openings for Carpentry-related occupations in the region is 1,121 while the average number of annual awards for Carpentry programs is 35, thus indicating a gap in supply.
- COE recommends ARC move forward with proposed program changes due to strong, on-going demand for Carpentry-related occupations in the region.

Please contact Ebony J. Benzing, COE Research Manager, for further information at Ebony.Benzing@losrios.edu or 916-563-3215.

¹ Emsi, 2018.3

² MIT Living Wage Calculator. <http://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/06067>

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ California Community College's Chancellor's Officer, Data Mart.



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