

April 28, 2016

As a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) employee from Air Marine Operations, I can say with a degree of relative confidence that there will be a need for approximately 300 new hires nationwide, for various Non – 1811 support positions in the Field of Homeland Security for DHS in the next year. Although it is hard to predict with specificity, many of those jobs are projected to be located in and around San Diego County.

Given the foreseeable job market demand as discussed and identified above, the training concept of including Homeland Security, Business and Administration of Justice topics would potentially help meet the demand outlined in the first paragraph above. Community College and other institutions offering such courses to students would be beneficial to government agencies in the field of Homeland Security seeking qualified applicants/candidates.

It is my opinion that there would be an advantage for applicants, who have Associates Degrees in related Homeland Security, and Public Safety Areas in obtaining positions with DHS, and affiliate government agencies. Furthermore, having an Associates Degree would enhance a current employee's chances of getting promoted within the organization. Therefore, although not an absolute requirement to qualify for support positions with DHS, it is desirable to have applicants, new hires, and employees possess an Associates Degree. Having such a degree, and background would make them more marketable as applicants, and once hired, give them the professional confidence to move up within the organization, taking on new career challenges and opportunities.

Most importantly, an Associates Degree in Homeland Security, Business, or Administration of Justice could serve as a feeder program for a Bachelors Degree in equivalent areas. This is important to consider given that, although an Associates Degree is beneficial, the trend with DHS, and affiliate agencies is to seek candidates who preferably possess Bachelor Degrees.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 522-6100

Very Respectfully,



Edwin Candelario

Department of Homeland Security
Air Marine Operations