

NEWS

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El Camino College Business Training Center Awarded Grant for High School Globalization Project

The El Camino College Business Training Center and its Center for International Trade Development (CITD) recently won a Strengthening Career Technical Education Programs grant from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

The grant will fund the High School Globalization project, which addresses academic issues in high schools that impact the international trade community and college international business programs. This project focuses on high schools in two California regions heavily dependent on international trade – Los Angeles County and the Central Valley, in the hopes that the areas can serve as models for other California communities. The project will be funded for \$248,521 over a two-year period.

The proposed High School Globalization project is designed to meet critical workforce development needs in California's huge and fast-growing international trade sector. This sector is a major driver of the state's economy, but suffers from severe labor shortages. The proposed project recognizes that internationalizing high school curriculum is not enough. Students must also be motivated to take the courses leading to an understanding of the global economy, graduate, and successfully pursue the many available jobs in the international field. To that larger end, the project has seven interrelated initiatives:

- 1. Expand International Trade Academies at selected high schools in Los Angeles County
- 2. Expand the International Economic Summit Program to selected high schools in the Central Valley
- 3. Strengthen international trade and global economics curriculum at the high school level
- 4. Reinforce high school international content with related internships and extracurricular activities
- 5. Better equip high school faculty to teach international trade and global economics
- 6. Open El Camino College's international business credit courses to area high school students
- 7. Train and prepare high school students for jobs in international trade and global logistics

The El Camino College Business Training Center provides businesses of all sizes assistance with on-site manufacturing technology, business development, international trade and workforce training. For more information, visit www.businessassist.org or call 310-973-3178.