Model Workplace Learning Opportunities Hierarchy

This consortium project will develop a workplace learning opportunities model within coastal Orange County that is a hierarchy of experiences for students that includes awareness, exploratory, and application strategies. This hierarchy would begin in elementary and middle schools, continue through high school and ROC/P and culminate at the Community College level. Each experience will be planned in partnership with business/industry in the area to support and expand upon the requirements of the current Tech Prep/Associate Degree educational reform and the School-to-Career System planned for California. The model to be developed addresses system-wide needs and the project products will be disseminated systemwide for replication.

This project expands a non-traditional form of instruction, experiential or workplace learning, and proposes to deliver that instruction in a specified sequence. The priority in the Basic Agenda for Economic Development and Vocational Education will be specifically addressed through the completion of this model project.

The objectives involve:

1.) Analyzing current work-based activities available in the Coast District Tech-Prep Consortium
2.) Developing a model of sequenced experiences for work-based learning activities appropriate for students at various grade levels
3.) Collecting and reviewing guidelines for work-based learning for each grade level
4.) Implementing the model for work-based learning experiences
5.) Evaluating the effectiveness of the project and preparing recommendations for replication of the project model and implementation of the process used
6.) Disseminating project products to Tech Prep Consortium and other educators in California