



News Release

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The Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board on behalf of the Central Valley was awarded a \$192,300 grant to train individuals in Solid Waste Management, Wastewater Treatment, and Integrated Pest Management.

Fresno, CA – The United States Environmental Protection Agency announced the award of \$192,300 to train 70 unemployed and under-employed individuals in the Solid Waste Management, Wastewater Treatment, and Integrated Pest Management sectors with placement in available positions throughout the Central Valley. The Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Program (EWDJT) is a cooperative effort between the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board (FRWIB), Fresno Metro Ministries, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno Building Healthy Communities, Reading and Beyond, Central Labor Council, State Center Community College District, West Hills College, and the University of California Cooperative Extension.

The unemployment rate in Fresno County has been consistently higher (10.2 percent in April 2015) than the overall rate of the state (6.1 percent). An April 2013 study ranked two zip codes in Fresno County as being within the top ten highest polluted in California. The training individuals will receive through the EWDJT will translate into a state-recognized certificate or license in recycling and solid waste management, wastewater treatment, or a pest control advisor license.

“The Fresno WIB’s latest 2014 Employment Study Report indicates that the training provided through the EWDJT is aligned with the needs of Fresno County employers who forecast an increase in positions within the Integrated Pest Management and Solid Waste Management and Cleanup sectors,” says Blake Konczal, Executive Director of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board.

The FRWIB looks forward to coordinating with our partners to provide this EWDJT training in the Central Valley.

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