STRONG WORKFORCE STARS Workforce Outcomes eShowcase

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Advancing Students' Social Mobility & Economic Outcomes

DeAnza College Energy Management & Building Science certificate July 25, 2017

Ninety percent or more of students report that their current job is close or very close to their field of study

De Anza College earned Strong Workforce Stars recognition in the Energy, Construction & Utilities sector for its Energy Management and Building Science (EMBS) certificate and Environmental Resource Management and Pollution Prevention associate degree programs; 100% of students who participate in these programs report securing a job in their field of study.

The college attributes students' strong employment outcomes to their career-oriented offerings, which provide a direct path to the labor market. The program's faculty leaders are deeply dedicated to students' career success, starting with ensuring students have hands-on, workplace experiences while enrolled. For example, Instructor and Program Coordinator for Energy Management and Building Science Bill Roeder recently developed a partnership with the International Facility Management Association - Silicon Valley chapter (IFMASV) to create a multi-pronged experience for students including classroom instruction that integrated an Essentials of Facilities Management course into the program's existing curriculum; professional networking with IFMASV members through classroom presentations, workplace tours, and membership in IFMASV; and links to internship and job opportunities with IFMASV member organizations. Additionally, the program offers its SunWork Renewable Energy Project internship program, which allows participants to develop solar installation skills that make them immediately employable.

In addition to the technical curriculum, the programs offer student workshops for resume and cover-letter writing, interview and networking skills, and they actively work with participants to develop their communication skills so they are able to effectively promote themselves to employers. The program also facilitates student connections to employment opportunities after they complete and promote graduates' career success among current students as a persistence and completion strategy. For example, the EMBS program tracks student's post-college outcomes and maintains a webpage highlighting the employment of recent graduates.