

Cerritos College CNC Machining Program Featured in National Association of Manufacturers Publication

Program Trains Dislocated Latino Workers

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NORWALK, Calif. – August 14, 2008 – Cerritos College’s CNC Machining program was selected to be one of the six colleges programs nationwide that are featured in the Building Tomorrow’s Workforce: Promoting the Education & Advancement of Hispanic Immigrant Workers in America. The report, prepared by the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce and funded by the Lumina Foundation, presents promising employer/community college partnerships that expand access to higher education and benefit low-skilled, immigrant Hispanic adults.

The program was custom designed to retrain immigrant Hispanic workers who had been laid off from factory jobs. The program addressed employer skill demands and provided integrated Vocational English as a Second Language (VESL) instruction. The program consisted of 200 hours of technical training and 40 hours of VESL instruction in 12 weeks. The SASSFA Worksource Center was a collaborating partner and provided the funding.

The project, managed by the college’s Office of Economic Development, was successful in retraining the workers in CNC machining and placing the majority in new positions.

“We are honored to have the project nationally recognized,” said Nick Kremer, executive dean of Cerritos College’s Community, Industry and Technology Education office. “Partnering with local groups such as SASSFA is a key to providing effective programs to the community.”

The full report is available from the National Association of Manufacturers (www.nam.org) or the Lumina Foundation (www.lumina.org). For more information on Cerritos College customized programs, visit <http://www.cerritotrainsu.com> or contact 562.860.2451 ext.2511.

Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 200 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently nears 20,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu.

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