CTE Teacher Training Program Receives $225K Grant from Chancellor’s Office

Funds Will Support Program Expansion in Early Childhood Education

Cerritos College has been awarded a Career Technical Education Teacher Preparation Pipeline grant in the amount of $225,000 from the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, benefiting its Teacher Training Academy (Teacher TRAC) Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways Program which provides services to future CTE educators.

The focus of the grant is to recruit and prepare qualified CTE teachers and to train faculty to prepare and counsel students pursuing a teaching career. The funding will be used towards program expansion in the area of Early Childhood Education, professional development for faculty and continuation of courses in math, English and science for CTE students. It will also support internships and enhanced student development through math and science tutors, counseling and mentorships.

“I am tremendously excited to receive this grant,” said Sue Parsons, director of Teacher TRAC. “It will allow us to build new partnerships, enhance existing partnerships, and add a new career sector, Early Childhood Education, to our Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program.”

“During the past two years, it has been a true privilege to get to know my CTE colleagues and their valuable work for our students in Auto, Woodworking and Welding,” added Parsons. “I look forward to continuing our work together to recruit and prepare new CTE teachers.”

Created in 2007 to address the statewide need for CTE teachers at the secondary and community college level, Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program has successfully developed six pathways for CTE teacher preparation for prospective high school and community college teachers in automotive, welding and woodworking. The program’s partnerships have expanded to include the University of La Verne, ABC Unified School District, Downey Unified ROP, and Head Start State Preschool, Norwalk/La Mirada School District, in addition to the continued partnerships with CSULB, CSULA, Southeast ROP and the Southland Motor Car Dealers Association.
“It has been an honor to assist the CTE Teacher TRAC Program continue growing during 2008-09 as a CTE Project Manager,” said Carina Huynh, CTE Pathways grant project manager. “We have recruited 258 students that have shown interest in this program, and ten students are currently doing the CTE Teacher TRAC internship program.”

Teacher TRAC CTE Pathways Program is a grant-funded component of the Cerritos College Teacher TRAC that provides services to future CTE educators in the areas of Automotive Technology, Welding and Woodworking. CTE Teacher TRAC is offering various opportunities for students to explore and prepare for the teaching profession. More information on how to be a part of CTE Teacher TRAC is available at www.teachertrac.com or at 562.860.2451 ext.2212.

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