



Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Best Practice Awards Reception in the Capitol Showcases Job Creation

Governor's award highlights intersection between education and economic development

OLYMPIA --- Four initiatives that demonstrate the connection between education and economic development will be recognized at a reception and awards ceremony, **Thursday, Feb. 9**, 3 - 4 p.m. in the Legislative building's Rotunda.

The 2011 Governor's Best Practices Awards for Workforce and Economic Development will be awarded to four programs that have proven effective in connecting jobseekers to good paying work, and employers to a skilled workforce.

This year's winners:

- A public-private partnership in Bellingham is helping grow local aerospace exports and resulting in the hiring of 400 workers mostly from the ranks of the unemployed.
- A training program at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake is helping low-wage farm workers move into commercial truck driving jobs– an occupation essential to the success of the region's agribusinesses.
- A youth internship program in Seattle provides workplace certifications and manufacturing internships to low-skilled, disadvantaged youth.
- A partnership in Spokane with local employers helping unemployed workers get manufacturing jobs they might not otherwise have acquired.

More about these programs at:

www.wtb.wa.gov/GovernorsBestPracticesAwards2011.asp

These awards are sponsored by the Office of the Governor, Department of Commerce and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

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