



# Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Best Practice Awards Reception 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. 24, 3 -4 p.m.** in the Legislative building's State Reception Room.

The 2010 Governor's Best Practices Awards for Workforce and Economic Development will be awarded to two programs that help Washington and its workers take full advantage of emerging environmental fields. Two other programs will be recognized for providing work experience to young adults and fostering entrepreneurship.

### **Walla Walla Community College Water & Environmental Center – Best Practice Award**

Research and development in water resource management and conservation, in conjunction with education that trains researchers and technicians, is generating environmental solutions and jobs.  
[www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/WallaWallaCommunityCollegev2.pdf](http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/WallaWallaCommunityCollegev2.pdf)

### **King County Jobs Initiative - Best Practice Award**

Since 1998, this county-operated workforce development program has placed over 1,200 low-income, disadvantaged residents of South King County into full-time employment, mostly in environmental clean up related jobs. [www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/KCJlv2.pdf](http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/KCJlv2.pdf)

### **SODO (Seeking Opportunities, Developing Occupations) – “Program to Watch” Award**

This King County program prepares disadvantaged youth ages 18-24 for work and places them in internships with 30 area manufacturing companies.  
<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/SODOv2.pdf>

### **Highline Community College's StartZone - “Program to Watch” Award**

South King County residents from disadvantaged backgrounds start and grow businesses through no-cost training, technical assistance and other business supports.  
<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Documents/StartZonev2.pdf>

These awards are organized by the state Department of Commerce and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. More at:  
<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/GovernorsBestPracticesAwards2010.asp>

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