

Alabama Community College System Program

Program

Alabama's Heavy Highway Road Construction On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program is the focus for the Alabama HCWP Program. The 24-week program is administered by Bishop State Community College, a member of the Alabama Community College System. The program incorporates industry-recognized credentials of American Traffic Safety Services Association Flagger Training, Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) 10-hour certification, National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) core curriculum, and heavy equipment operator and Commercial Driver's License training. The program also includes OJT familiarization training with heavy construction equipment.

Partners

The Alabama HCWP Program is a collaborative effort with the Alabama Community College System, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Alabama Department of Transportation, Alabama Road and Transportation Builder Association, the Alabama Associated General Contractors of America, and the Southwest Alabama Partnership for Training and Employment (SWAPTE).

Results

Program implementation was delayed, but in January 2021, Bishop State Community College will conduct the first program with 15 participants. Six highway construction companies have committed to hiring the individuals when training is completed. The six companies are providing the OJT opportunities for the students that will begin with the January program.

Funding

Bishop State Community College worked with its industry partners to develop the program curriculum and absorbed the costs for the college staff for program development, implementation, and tuition/fees. Company commitment to provide OJT and the opportunity for employment plus student scholarships ("Earn While You Learn") has been a motivating factor for students.

Future

A program interest is to be recognized as part of the Governor's workforce development program and to support the Governor's goal of training 500,000 individuals by 2025. Additional funding would support scholarships, increases to training site availability, and expanded program outreach and marketing.

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