



BARSTOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Public Information Office

NEWS RELEASE

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Barstow Community College Receives \$1.9 Million In Grants for Career Technical Education Career and Training Program

Grant Services New and Existing Programs at BCC for Barstow and Surrounding Areas

(*Barstow, Calif.* – August 22, 2008) Barstow Community College was awarded \$1.9 million in grants through a competitive process from the California Community College State Chancellor’s Office in June. Barstow Community College is one of nearly 50 community colleges in California to receive a grant from the 110 community colleges in the state. The grants for vocational education will be awarded over five years.

The Career Technical Education Community Collaborative grant, a \$1.25 million award, was written specifically to provide outreach to middle school students and will include high school freshmen through seniors. “The thought was to get middle school students interested in careers early,” states Ken Eaves, director of vocational education for BCC. “The goal is to get them hooked on one of the emerging vocational careers through emersion, high tech and low tech programming,” he continues. The programs, yet to be created through collaboration with the school districts, include careers in alternative energy (solar), construction design and planning, geological, archeological, wetlands and environmental technology with emphasis placed on math and reading skills. The school districts of Barstow, Silver Valley and Baker are part of the collaborative grant.

The Perkins IV grant, formerly known as Vocational and Technical Education Act (VTEA), was re-awarded to BCC to support Career Technical Education (CTE) programs over the next five years. A portion will be used to establish a Career and Job Placement Center on the Barstow campus.

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A part of the grant will be used for an existing VTEA program that assists qualified students enrolled in specific vocational courses through textbook assistance, transportation and childcare expenses. The remaining balance will be used to advance and modernize existing CTE program that include accounting, automotive/diesel, business management/marketing, carpentry, culinary arts, customer service academy, electrical, logistics/warehousing, office technology, and welding. The grant awards nearly \$150,000 each year for the next five years, and is subject to increase based upon the number of enrolled students in the vocational education program.

Barstow Community College is located in Southern California's Mojave Desert, also known as the High Desert, halfway between Los Angeles and Las Vegas on Interstate 15, and continues to be the fastest growing on-line community college choice in the region.

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