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Nearly \$260K In Construction Education Grants Awarded

On Nov. 18, 2008, the Nevada State Commission on Construction Education awarded grants to seven Nevada organizations totaling \$259,611.50 for use in furthering their educational services.

Western Nevada College Foundation, Carson City, received \$10,000 to provide tuition assistance to help pay for enrollment costs for classes in carpentry, plumbing, electrical, scheduling, surveying and safety. The grant will provide scholarship funds in the amount of \$250 per student per semester.

Academy for Career Education (ACE), Reno, received \$29,111.50 to fund an expansive marketing campaign to promote the message that ACE is a tuition-free public high school for students in 9th to 12th grade, who are seriously interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry.

Western Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (WACA), Reno, received \$30,000 for its "Building Trade Apprenticeship Recruiting & Marketing Program" to recruit apprentices for the building trades in 13 rural and urban Northern Nevada counties.

Associated General Contractors – Las Vegas Chapter received \$72,000 for its Construction Education Center's 31 classes, seminars and courses designed to upgrade the professional abilities, skills and standing of the construction workforce in Southern Nevada.

Associated Builders & Contractors – Las Vegas Chapter received \$33,500 to cover the costs of seminars, courses and classes intended to improve the construction industry by expanding workers' abilities, skills and knowledge in Southern Nevada.

Southern Nevada Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Service Contractors Association (SNARSCA), Las Vegas, received \$35,000 for increasing enrollments its North American Technical Excellence (NATE) certification program for technicians in the HVAC/R (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration) industry.

Northwest Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas, received \$50,000 to cover the cost of software, construction materials, presenters and product for one school year to research, design, build and present highly efficient and environmentally conscious ("green") displays that demonstrate the impact on residential construction and usage.

The Construction Education Commission was created by the Nevada Legislature in 2001 for the purpose of encouraging programs that meet the mission of improving quality and integrity in the construction industry to attract and retain an educated and skilled workforce. It consists of one member from the Nevada State Contractors Board and six members appointed by the governor. Four members represent the construction industry and the other two have knowledge of construction education programs.

The commission is totally funded through voluntary contributions and fines levied through the Nevada State Contractors Board disciplinary process. A goal of the program is to increase awareness that a career in the construction trade is a viable profession that offers competitive salaries and high job satisfaction.

Grant applications are available on the Nevada State Contractors Board website at: www.nscb.state.nv.us.

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