



SkillUp Washington Summaries of Six College for Working Adults Programs

Bellevue Community College redesigned an existing 45-credit certificate program in computer operating system support to a hybrid format appropriate to the needs of working adults. The program takes advantage of an existing consortium of colleges that includes Seattle Central, North, and South as well as Renton, Cascadia, and Highline who all provide training that represents a stepping-stone into this certificate level program. BCC will involve several community-based organizations and employers in helping to recruit and support students. BCC will appoint a full-time student support specialist. The certificate leads to an AA degree. There will be 22 students in the demonstration cohort. Grant funds are \$145,854.

Highline Community College redesigned an existing 45-credit certificate program in chemical dependency to a hybrid format for deliver to working students. This 45-credit module would pair with courses already available on a compressed delivery model through Highline's Weekend College and lead to an AAS degree in chemical dependency or a more general human services track. Both AAS degrees articulate to an applied bachelor's degree at Seattle South and at Evergreen State College. Highline is well connected with employers and community-based organizations to support the students. Highline will enroll as many as 20 students per quarter with the first cohort of 20 completing in the first year of program delivery. \$110,000 grant of which \$60,000 will be paid by King County.

Seattle Central Community College led the design of a new approach to the Early Childhood Education AA degree, concentrating on the first 45 credits that lead to the Child Development Associate. In cooperation with North Seattle, Green River and Highline and with support from Pacific Associates, Seattle Central will develop a cohort-based approach that re-structures the current series of 3 credit courses into 5 credit courses with a pre-determined sequence in which cohorts of students would take two courses at a time over seven week terms leading to completion of the full program in one year. Each of the four colleges will enroll a 30-student cohort for a total of 120 students in this demonstration. Grant funds are \$144,000.

Shoreline Community College collaborated with Lake Washington Technical College to establish a compressed CNC machinist training program that leads to a 61-credit certificate and completes the major part of a 90-credit Associate's degree. The program will draw on the I-BEST model by using general education and vocational instructors working as a team -- in this program with a full-time career navigator. Working with area employers, Shoreline will recruit a 30-member cohort for this demonstration. Shoreline is building partnerships with several community-based organizations to help support the students. Grant funds are \$105,045.

North Seattle Community College, in partnership with Lake Washington Technical College and several area healthcare employers, has designed a compressed version of a 69-credit Medical Assistant Certificate program that articulates to a 94-credit AAS degree. The MA certificate is ordinarily a six-quarter program with an additional two quarters for the AAS degree. This new approach will compress instruction into 5 quarters with a one-quarter externship. Each quarter will consist of a 12-credit program led by one instructor and divided not into traditional courses but rather focusing around a series of individual program competencies. One 25-student cohort of low-wage employees from area healthcare employers is planned for this demonstration with workplace-based mentors and a cohort-focused case manager. Grant funds are \$152,000.

South Seattle Community College received \$70,000 in a planning grant to create an inventory of all King County Community College Business Technology programs. All eleven community and technical colleges in King County have agreed to work together to create a seamless, transferrable Business Technology degree option that can reach all incumbent workers and residents across the county. This concept creates a potential platform for more coordinated credentials across our system. This planning grant will provide our broad partnership sufficient time to work through many complex issues. Ultimately, there will be agreement on one universal curriculum design, up-skill faculty and finalize an implementation plan require a dedicated planning phase. Discussion between colleges on compressed classroom time, multiple cohorts starting at multiple times, faculty contract issues and support services will be addressed.