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Secretary Newson Announces \$155,000 in Grants for Apprenticeship Training in Alternative Energy Trades

Funds help build skills with on-the-job training, technical college instruction

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today announced more than \$150,000 in grants to fund apprenticeship training for “green” occupations, building alternative energy trade skills in partnership with five technical colleges and three labor organizations.

“The funding is the latest example of our continuing efforts to align workforce training opportunities and bring about good jobs for Wisconsin residents,” said Secretary Newson. “Under Governor Scott Walker, DWD is developing a number of mechanisms that will enable private-sector employers to access the training resources that they need to hire skilled and trained workers.”

The grants were awarded as a part of a \$6 million Sector Alliance for the Green Economy grant DWD previously received from the U.S. Department of Labor to support training programs in “green” energy occupations. With the funding, the technical colleges and on-the-job training providers can offer courses that supplement traditional apprenticeship instruction, providing more opportunities for training in cutting-edge technologies.

Grants were issued to the following vocational training providers:

- Blackhawk Technical College (Plumbing), \$17,725
- Fox Valley Technical College (Plumbing), \$27,000
- Madison Area Technical College (Construction Electrician), \$37,500
- Madison Area Technical College (Plumbing), \$13,500
- Mid-State Technical College (Plumbing), \$11,200
- Western Technical College (Plumbing), \$11,800
- Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International Association Local 599 Apprenticeship Training Fund (Cement Mason), \$10,900
- Plumbers Local 75 Apprenticeship Training Fund (Plumbing), \$11,200
- Racine Kenosha Walworth Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 118 Education Fund (Plumbing), \$15,100

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