



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
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**MORE THAN 30 STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM  
SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
BIO-FLEX PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

HAWTHORNE – More than 30 high school and college age students graduated from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board’s (SBWIB) Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program. The two-month long program was funded in part by a grant from Los Angeles County Second District Supervisor Holly Mitchell.

Participating students were from Manuel Dominguez High School in Compton, King Drew Magnet High School of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, Morningside High School in Inglewood and West Los Angeles College in Culver City. During the program, the students had the opportunity to learn from a variety of employers about the career opportunities in the life sciences sector. They also completed online technical skills classes through Biotech Primer, learned about the South Bay Promise Program, and participated in a hands-on lab experience called the Amgen Biotech Experience at LA Trade Tech College.

The SBWIB Blueprint for Workplace Success curriculum trained the students how to create or upgrade their resumes, how to build their profile on LinkedIn, and learn valuable interview skills. Graduates received certificates of completion and \$300 stipend checks. They will next have an opportunity to be matched with a professional mentor and/or participate in a paid work experience.

Graduation ceremonies were held at Morningside, Dominguez and King Drew high schools to recognize the students and thank all of the partners that make the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship a success. The students received congratulatory remarks from Supervisor Holly Mitchell in person or via video during the ceremonies.

The SBWIB Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship offerings are employer centric training programs that are proving to be successful in developing and upskilling current employees, while increasing the pipeline of a future workforce. “As we continue to access new funding sources our innovative earn and learn apprenticeship models will be expanded to the fields of Healthcare, Information Technology/Cybersecurity, Arts/Media and Entertainment and Clean Energy/Transportation,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel.

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