



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board and Northrop Grumman Corporation Celebrate Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Engineering Graduates

REDONDO BEACH - On May 23rd, the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB), its Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship partners and Northrop Grumman Corporation congratulated students from Northrop Grumman's Spring 2018 High School Involvement Partnership (HIP) program. Twenty of the HIP students also participated in the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship (AFPA) Engineering program and received a stipend check of \$500.

Northrop Grumman has been a leading partner of the SBWIB Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship since inception, "We are grateful to Northrop" stated Jan Vogel, SBWIB's Executive Director. "In partnership with Northrop, we started the Aero-Flex Engineering program; and because of the success we had last year and this year with Northrop and other employers, we were approved by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Office of Apprenticeship to be designated as the first ever registered Aerospace Engineering Apprenticeship program" added Mr. Vogel.

In addition to completing the HIP program, students enrolled in AFPA completed over twelve weeks of hands-on work experience, received both in-class and online work-readiness training through SBWIB's Blueprint for Workplace Success, along with industry approved and employer selected online technical instruction.

Graduate students of the AFPA program received two certificates; one for completing the Blueprint for Workplace Success training and the other for completing the AFPA Program. Their AFPA Certificate of Completion is signed by the 11 aerospace employer sponsors who helped design and continuously validate the Pre-Apprenticeship and new Apprenticeship framework. With this certificate in the students' resume and portfolio, they will have an edge when competing for college and career opportunities. Students will also benefit with priority status should they go on to enlist in the Aerospace Engineering Apprenticeship program, available as they complete their junior year of college.

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne providing no cost adult, youth and business services. For further information, or companies interested in being a part of the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship program, please contact Deborah Shepard at dshepard@sbwib.org, call (310) 970-7700 or visit sbwib.org.

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Photo caption: Graduating interns of Northrop Grumman’s Spring 2018 High School Involvement Partnership (HIP) program and SBWIB’s Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship (AFPA) program were congratulated on their success at Northrop Grumman Corporation on May 23rd, 2018.