



NEWS

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250

November 27, 2023

Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

**SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AWARDED \$150,000 GRANT TO PREPARE
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE STUDENT
TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

HAWTHORNE – A collaboration between the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and the Foundation for California Community Colleges has awarded the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) a \$150,000 grant to provide work readiness training and paid work experience opportunities for students with disabilities under the Student Training & Employment Program (STEP).

This project will serve 30 students with disabilities recruited in partnership with three school districts including Torrance Unified, Gardena and Carson High Schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District, and Inglewood Unified School District. SBWIB will work directly with the Districts' Special Education Departments and the Special Resource Center at El Camino College to recruit eligible students.

“With over 1,000 students with disabilities in high schools in our service area, this program will help provide more resources to additional students and prepare them to become part of a diverse and prepared workforce in our nation’s evolving economy,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel.

Students enrolled in the program will receive work readiness training through SBWIB’s Blueprint for Workplace Success curriculum, and the paid work experience component will last a minimum of 120 hours starting early in 2024. To ensure that the students’ career interests are addressed, they will be able to access the SBWIB’s more than 300 training and employer partners.

#