DAILY BREEZE Local News

LOCAL NEWS

150 South Bay high school, El Camino College students get offers at youth job fair



Over 1,400 high school and college-age students gathered at El Camino College for the 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board on Wednesday, April 30th, 2025. (Courtesy SBWIB)



By **TYLER SHAUN EVAINS** | tevains@scng.com UPDATED: May 7, 2025 at 3:29 PM PDT South Bay students from more than 20 local high schools and community colleges recently received job offers or got employment leads, and learned about different careers at the 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair.

The event, hosted by the <u>South Bay Workforce Investment Board</u> on April 30 at El Camino College, saw more than 1,400 students and featured more than 100 employers who offered jobs to 150 high school and El Camino College students on the spot, as well as shared more than 3,000 job opportunities to attendees, according to a press release from the workforce investment board.

Many students were also scheduled for second interviews, the release said, increasing their chances of securing meaningful, long-term employment. Through the annual event, teens often get their first real-world work experience as a crucial stepping stone to success, the release added.

During the event, <u>SBWIB</u> Executive Director Jan Vogel told attendees about the importance of making a strong first impression, encouraging them to look their interviewers in the eye, shake their hands and take the opportunity to learn about various career pathways.

This was the third consecutive year that the job fair has been held at El Camino College.

"This job fair process continues to be successful in enabling young job seekers to gain first-time employment," El Camino College President Brenda Thames said at the event.



Torrance Councilmember Sharon Kalani, meanwhile, reminded students that while landing a job is a goal, the journey to get there is just as important.

"The skills you're developing and the connections you're making," she said, "will serve you well as you move forward in your career."

On top of providing immediate employment opportunities, the annual youth job fair also gets students' feet in the door of long-term career pathways through entry level positions.

Students also participated in workshops led by Disneyland, the FBI and other companies and organizations in various industries.

The annual event is a cornerstone of the SBWIB's efforts to help young people in the South Bay region develop skills and experience for career success by connecting them to employers, teaching them about different industries, exploring career options and securing their first job all in one day.

Originally Published: May 7, 2025 at 3:26 PM PDT