



## NEWS

*South Bay Workforce Investment Board*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

South Bay Workforce Investment Board  
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August 24, 2023

**HAWTHORNE HIGH STUDENTS COMPLETE FIVE WEEK  
SBWIB AERO-FLEX PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

HAWTHORNE – Eighteen Hawthorne High School students were honored August 22<sup>nd</sup> for completing the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program (AFPA) through the on-campus School of Manufacturing & Engineering under the direction of instructor Luis Pacheco.

The graduates, who ranged from seniors to sophomores, completed the five-week AFPA training and curriculum and are now included within the almost 400 successful high school and college students who have earned industry-recognized stackable credentials since the program's inception in 2017.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel noted, "We are extremely proud and appreciative of the support and partnership we have received from the Centinela Valley Union High School District over the years in allowing us to bring our apprenticeship opportunities and other programs to their campuses".

The SBWIB developed the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship programs as an employer-centric earn and learn model in partnership with local aerospace manufacturing companies. It was designed from conception to validation by industry partners and employers who appreciate non-traditional earn and learn engineering apprenticeship training.

The AFPA participants completed soft skills training, Tooling U-SME courses, and a hands-on work experience with Mr. Pacheco. They received certificates of completion and a \$300 stipend for completing the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship. This program was made possible through support from the Howmet Aerospace Foundation, Centinela Valley Union High School District and the SBWIB.

Currently more than 20 South Bay/LA area companies and community partners in education have participated in the Aero-Flex program, which is open to high school and postsecondary students, adults, incumbent workers as well as veterans and other under-served or under-employed populations.

For further information visit [www.sbwib.org](http://www.sbwib.org).



Photo caption: Eighteen Hawthorne High School students were honored August 22nd for completing the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program (AFPA) through the on-campus School of Manufacturing & Engineering under the direction of instructor Luis Pacheco.