



For immediate release

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Oregon expands career readiness with \$9 million investment in hands-on learning for 142 schools

"A skilled workforce is the foundation of a healthy economy," says Avakian

PORTLAND, OR—One hundred and forty two Oregon middle schools and high schools – serving more than 85,000 students – have secured career readiness grants totaling \$9 million, Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian and Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction Salam Noor announced today.

The CTE Revitalization Grant funds will serve diverse communities around the state with programs focused on advanced manufacturing, engineering, agricultural science, app development, robotics, tourism, forestry, home renovation and health care.

"A skilled workforce is the foundation of a healthy economy," said Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian. "Today's grants will give more Oregon students access to the hands-on learning and skills training that they need to succeed. The grant fund takes a bottom-up approach so that the career readiness investment matches the greatest need in high-wage, high-growth fields."

In total, the 25 grants will leverage additional funds from 277 local business and community partners.

"These grants will help more students prepare for college and career," said Deputy Superintendent Salam Noor. "I'm very pleased to see the ongoing expansion of hands-on, applied learning to more schools around the state. These programs are good for students, good for businesses, and good for local communities."

Graduation rates for students in CTE programs are near 90 percent, according to the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium.

The grants build on earlier investments by the Oregon Legislature in 2011, 2013 and 2014 totaling \$14 million.

The CTE Revitalization Advisory Committee – comprised of representatives from organized labor, trade organizations, education and Oregon's energy and business community – reviewed 73 applications totaling \$24.5 million in requests. The committee prioritized applications based on geographic diversity, community partnerships, and programs that lead to high-wage, high-demand occupations, especially for historically underserved students.

A map of grant-funded programs can be found [here](#).

District/School/ESD	Program Name	Award
Baker Technical Institute, Baker School District 5J	Baker Technical Welding Proposal	\$330,930.00
Astoria School District	Clatsop County CTE Center	\$305,469.00
David Douglas School District	Project LAB (Learning Aligned with Business	\$390,745.00
Elgin School District	Fabricating Quality Careers in Agriculture	\$378,426.00
Gaston Junior/Senior High School	Dream, Plan, Build Gaston	\$360,478.00
Harney School District #3	Harney Frontier Schools CTE Revitalization	\$368,382.00
Henley High School	Revitalizing CTE in Klamath County	\$390,605.00
Hillsboro School District	Hillsboro Manufacturing Training and Learning Center	\$385,188.00
La Grande School District, La Grande High School	Real Science Creating Real Industry Skills in CTE	\$379,852.00
Malheur Education School District	Treasure Valley Tech	\$488,432.00
McMinnville School District	Protective Services Career Pathway Project	\$146,796.00
Heppner High School	Morrow County Welding and Manufacturing Project	\$390,745.00
Pendleton School District	Pendleton Technology and Trade Center	\$390,745.00
Redmond High School	Building the Hub of Entrepreneurship: Innovation and Ideation at Redmond High School	\$231,700.00
Roseburg High School	Roseburg High CTE Revitalization – Skills for the 21 st Century	\$358,909.00
Sabin-Schellenberg Professional Technical Center	Equitable Opportunities in Emerging Technology	\$323,884.00
Scio High School	Scio CTE Expansion	\$383,052.00
South Coast Education School District	South Coast Healthcare Pathway Program	\$418,488.00
Southern Oregon Education School District	Manufacturing by Design	\$488,432.00
St. Helens School District #502	Renovations and Remodeling	\$380,197.00
Sunset High School	Sunset High School Engineering Pathway	\$325,642.00
Tigard-Tualatin School District	Tigard-Tualatin Manufacturing CTE Program of Study	\$385,215.00
Waldport High School, Lincoln County School District	Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead	\$384,735.00
Willamina School District	College and Career-Ready: CTE Revitalization Grant	\$390,745.00
Yamhill Carlton High School	Yamhill Carlton Career Academy	\$222,208.00

A diverse coalition of advocates will seek to refill and expand the grant fund during the 2017 Oregon legislative session as part of the larger effort to ensure that every middle school and high school has access to high-quality and engaging CTE programs.

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) jointly appoint the Career and Technical Education Revitalization Advisory Committee. Additional information on grant criteria and additional summaries of the projects selected for this round of funding can be found online [here](#).

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