

The future for California workers is apprenticeships

[Article originally appeared in <https://calmatters.org>]

By Carolyn Jones, CalMatters

A key solution to California's workforce woes is more varied, more accessible — and more lucrative — apprenticeship programs starting as early as high school, several labor experts said today.

"We have a lot of opportunity in California, but we have to make sure we have a workforce pipeline that's well prepared and ready to go," said Cesar Lara, director of workforce and economic development at the California Labor Federation.

Lara spoke on a panel at the CalMatters Ideas Festival who addressed the need for stronger workforce pathways as a way to bolster the state economy. While everyone agreed that apprenticeships are a crucial way to funnel workers toward well-paid jobs, they also noted a slew of barriers that prevent some people — particularly women and those who are low-income — from accessing those apprenticeships.

Money and childcare are big challenges. While some apprenticeship programs are well-paid, many are not. Those who want to enter the education field, for example, must pay for the on-the-job experience required to get hired.

"We've figured out how to pay electricians and plumbers while they're training, but we expect teachers to work for free. That's a problem," Adele Burnes, deputy chief of California Division of Apprenticeship Standards, said during the panel discussion, moderated by CalMatters economy reporter Levi Sumagaysay.

Apprenticeship programs should offer flexible scheduling or stipends for childcare, Burnes said, which could make well-paying jobs available to more women. Although the numbers are increasing, women are vastly underrepresented in construction apprenticeships.

Parina Parikh, associate vice president of the nonprofit Jobs for the Future, noted a need for employers to broaden their scope in recruiting workers for well-paying jobs and apprentice programs. Employers should consider waiving college degree requirements for some positions, and consider offering jobs, apprenticeships and training opportunities to people with criminal records.

As California's economy grows, the need for strong apprenticeship programs in the skilled trades and beyond is crucial, especially for those who've historically been excluded from those jobs, said Megan Nazareno, senior program and data manager for the Construction Trades Workforce Initiative.

"Right now there's a huge disconnect between the labor supply and labor demand," she said. "But it's even wider for disadvantaged communities. ... We need to fix that."

Near Sacramento, Sutter Health has collaborated with a local community college to train students for careers as nursing assistants, emergency medical technicians, radiation technicians and other healthcare professions.

The impetus was an abundance of hard-to-fill job openings, and no relief in sight, said Sutter vice president of external affairs Keri Thomas,



CalMatters CEO Neil Chase, far right, moderates a discussion about workforce partnerships featuring Art Pimentel, president of Folsom Lake College, far left, and Keri Thomas, center, vice president of external affairs at Sutter Health, during CalMatters' Ideas Festival at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento on June 6, 2024. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

who spoke on a second panel. More than 20% of the Sutter workforce is over age 56, she said, and not enough young people are pursuing careers in the healthcare field even as the need grows.

To spur students' interest, Sutter offers scholarships to Folsom Lake College in Folsom that cover tuition as well as books and equipment, pays students while they're getting their clinical training experience, and has funded a training center where students can gain practical skills.

Efforts start well before students reach college, an approach that's shown to be effective in other fields, as well. In addition to promoting dual enrollment programs with local high schools, Sutter goes to middle schools — "planting the seed"

by visiting classrooms and bringing middle school students on field trips to Sutter hospitals.

The partnership has made healthcare careers possible for countless low-income students who otherwise would not be able to afford it, said Art Pimentel, Folsom Lake College president. More than 20% of Folsom Lake's students are the first in their family to attend college, and more than 60% are low-income.

"We believe college is for everyone, but not everyone needs a 4-year degree," Pimentel said. "You can get a 1-year certificate from Folsom Lake College and make \$30, \$40, even \$50 an hour."

SOURCE: <https://calmatters.org/economy/2024/06/california-workers-apprenticeships-ideas-festival/>

Southern California, Central Valley business leaders join forces in Sacramento

Nearly 100 diverse business leaders from Southern California and the Central Valley region traveled to Sacramento this month for a two-day advocacy trip to amplify the broad business community's priorities, presence and power in the state capital. The annual "BizFed Sacramento Days" event, co-hosted by the Los Angeles County Business Federation "BizFed" and Central Valley Business Federation "BizFed CV," is now in its sixth year.

This year's hour-long policy panels, a staple of Sacramento Days programming, focused on public safety, housing, energy and rising legislative voices. High-stakes solutions for organized retail crime, land use permitting reform and energy affordability that were advanced by BizFed members' advocacy took center stage during the panels.

Panel speakers included Sen. Aisha Wahab (chair of the senate committee on public safety), Asm. Buffy Wicks (Assembly Appropriations Committee Chair), Sen. Steven Bradford (Senate Energy, Utilities and Communication

Committee Chair), outgoing Asm. Jim Patterson and freshman Asm. Joe Patterson.

Special remarks and small-group discussions were led by Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair Rick Chavez Zbur, Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguilar Curry, Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher, Asm. Chris Ward, Asm. Jacqui Irwin, Asm. Mike Gipson, California State Water Resources Control Board Chair Joaquin Esquivel, California Transportation Commission Executive Director Tanisha Taylor, California Energy Commissioner Noemí Gallardo, California Chief Deputy Legislative Analyst Carolyn Chu and Little Hoover Commission Executive Director Ethan Rarick.

Sacramento Days programming also deepened relationships between job creators and news media. Journalists with an outsized role in covering the California State Capitol joined select BizFed members during the trip for an exclusive dinner panel. Guests Conan Nolan (NBC4 Los Angeles), Elex Michaelson (FOX

11 Los Angeles), Eytan Wallace (FOX 40 Sacramento) and Dave Leshner (CalMatters) discussed how they select and humanize stories, the growing role of artificial intelligence in accountability journalism and how business leaders can more effectively amplify industry insights.

The advocacy trip closed with a reception attended by Sen. Anna Caballero, Sen. Maria Elena Durazo, Sen. Melissa Hurtado, Asm. Juan Carrillo, Asm. Mike Fong, Asm. Tom Lackey, Asm. Blanca Pacheco, Asm. Freddie Rodriguez and Asm. Miguel Santiago.

"We step it up every year to ensure the voice of business is heard loud and clear in both houses of the Legislature, as well as key regulatory bodies. We broadened the scope of our programming this year and brainstormed with regulatory agency leaders involved in water, transportation and energy decisions, plus our regular roster of legislators and other policy leaders. We're confident the asks our members made and the data-driven concerns they shared

will be amplified," said BizFed Founding CEO Tracy Hernandez.

"BizFed is laser focused on amplifying the collective voice of business leaders from Southern California and the Central Valley. Our united front in Sacramento showcases the power of collaboration in driving impactful policy changes that benefit our diverse economic landscape," said BizFed President David Englin.

"We were proud to turn out the largest ever group of Central Valley members for Sacramento Days 2024. Partnering with our friends from Southern California bolstered individual business voices from an array of sectors and communities, reminding policymakers that business leaders have diverse needs but a shared commitment to creating better jobs and a brighter tomorrow," said BizFed CV CEO Clint Olivier.

SOURCE: www.BizFed.org



CALIFORNIA SUB-BID REQUEST ADS



Mountain Cascade Inc.
555 Exchange Court, Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 373-8370, Fax (925) 373-0940

Project: Carter Reservoir Rehabilitation, Arroyo Pumping Plant Improvement, And Arroyo Reservoir Replacement
Spec. No. 2185
Owner: EBMUD

Bid Date: June 26th, 2024 @ 1:30 p.m.

We are requesting quotes from all qualified DBE/MBE/WBE/ Subcontractors and Suppliers but not limited to: Aggregates, Asphalt, Pipe Suppliers, Steel Tanks, Misc. Metals, Concrete Pumping/Structures, Demolition, Electrical-Building, Fencing, Landscaping/Irrigation/Hydroseeding, Reinforcing Steel, Welded steel pipe, Trucking, Pumping plant electrical equipment, HVAC/Mechanical, paintings/coatings, Valves/water main/temp facilities,

Project Description: The work includes but not limited to: at Carter Reservoir: blasting & coating of the interior and replacement of existing roof: at Arroyo Pumping Plant : demolish and replace existing meter: at Arroyo Reservoir: demo & removal of existing 1.0 MG steel tank and construction of two steel tanks (0.29 MG)

Engineers Estimate between: \$14M and \$17M

Project information, including plans & specifications can be found by contacting:

<http://www.ebmud.com/current-construction-bids> or: estimating@mountaincascade.com

Please feel free to contact Mountain Cascade, Inc. at 925.373.8370 with any questions concerning bonding, insurance, lines of credit, and job overview. We look forward to your response.

Mountain Cascade Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
California License # 422496

This is Part of a Good Faith Outreach. Your response is greatly appreciated

Alcal Specialty Contracting, Inc.

We are requesting quotes for Diversified,
Small, and Minority Business

Project: Solano College District #25-001
B1400 Modernization Phase 1 Roof Project
Location: Fairfield, CA

Requirements:

SBE, SLDBE, MBE, WBE, DBE, DVBE welcomed

Bid Due date: 6/27/2024 @ 2:00PM

Contacts:

Santiago Govea 510-767-5862

Email: santiago.govea@alcal.com

PIONEER CONTRACTORS INC.

Request bids from all qualified SLDBE, DVBE, SBE subcontractors and suppliers for the following project

B1400 Modernization Phase 1 Roof Project - #25-001
4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534

Owner: Solano Community College District

Trades required: Demolition, Hazmat Abatement, Carpentry, Plumbing and Fall Protection.

Bid Due: June 27, 2024 - 2PM

Plans available at our office, Located at
1485 Armstrong Ave. San Francisco, CA 94124

Contact: Ernesto Figueroa or Art Alicante

Phone: 415-671-1070

Ernesto@pioneercontractors.com

Arta@pioneercontractors.com



Is requesting quotes from certified and qualified DBE (MBE, WBE, SBE, SBRA, LSAF, HUB Zone) and Subcontractors, Suppliers, and Service Providers for the following (but not limited to) work:

SUBS/SERVICE PROVIDERS

Archeology, Construction Engineering & Inspection Services, Construction Project & Document Control, Computer-Aided Design & Drafting (CADD), Environmental Consultant, Geotechnical Engineering, Land Surveyor, Public Relations, Regulatory Environmental, Scheduling, Structural Engineering, Utility Locate & Potholing

HI-DESERT WATER DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE PROGRESSIVE DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES FOR THE PHASE II WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT

YUCCA VALLEY, CA

Proposal Submittal Date: July 3, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

All Quotes Due Prior

Sukut Construction, LLC

4010 W. Chandler Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92704

Contact: Lawrence Damore

Phone: (714) 540-5351 • Fax: (714) 545-2003 • Email: estimating@sukut.com

Plans/specs are available for viewing at our office by appointment, by Sukut FTP, or from Owner. Subcontractors must be prepared to furnish 100% performance and payment bonds and possess current insurance and workers' comp coverage. Sukut will assist qualified subcontractors in obtaining bonds, insurance, and/or lines of credit. Subcontractors/Vendors will be required to sign Sukut's Standard Subcontract/Purchase Order. Copies are available for examination. Please contact Lawrence Damore at Sukut Construction for assistance in responding to this solicitation.

Sukut Construction's listing of a Subcontractor in its bid to the agency is not to be construed as an acceptance of all the Subcontractor's conditions or exceptions included with Subcontractor's price quotes. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by Owner for contract award.

Sukut Construction, LLC • An Equal Opportunity Employer



W.A. Rasic Construction is preparing a bid for the following project as a prime contractor and we are interested in receiving subcontractor quotations for items of work or materials required below from interested Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Women Business Enterprise (WBE), Small Business Enterprise (SBE), Small Business in Rural Area (SBRA), Labor Surplus Area Firm (LSAF), and a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Small Business Concern or a concern under a Successor Program.

Hi Desert Water District
Progressive Design-Build Services
Phase II Wastewater Collection System Project

Bid Date: July 3, 2024 @ 1:00 PM

Outreach: DBE/ MBE/WBE

Senior Estimator: Ben Sebat (562) 928-6111

Email: BSebat@WARasic.com

W.A. Rasic is requesting bids for the following trades and/or material supplies:

Drafting Services, Community Liaison, Construction Engineering Services, Environmental Consulting Services, Geotechnical Services, Inspection Services, Schedule, Structural Engineering, Survey, Utility Potholing, Testing Services

Plans & Specifications are available at no cost to interested firms by either contacting

W.A. Rasic Construction or the Hi-Desert Water District, or by utilizing the following Dropbox link:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/xb2f18rn0p5z9bcxqvuz/HDWWD_Phase_II_PDB_RFP_20240523.pdf?rlkey=6zn1k38n8hfps44eb233npup4&st=zxbd1e0&dl=0

W.A. Rasic intends to seriously negotiate with qualified firms and will assist in obtaining bonds, lines of credit, insurance, equipment, supplies and materials upon request. W.A. Rasic will consider all DBE, MBE, WBE, SBE, SBRA, LSAF, HUD quotes, including those that are broken down into economically feasible tasks or quantities as well as arrange delivery schedules to facilitate and encourage maximum bidding participation. W.A. Rasic also encourages a consortium of DBE, MBE, WBE, SBE, SBRA, LSAF, HUD firms when a contract portion is too large to handle individually. Subcontractors must have a valid California Contractors License and must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) as required by Section 1725.5 of the Public Contract Code. Subcontractors will be required to execute W.A. Rasic's standard subcontract agreement and general insurance requirements. A copy of our subcontract agreement and insurance requirements are available in electronic format upon request. W.A. Rasic reserves the right to require each subcontractor to provide payment and performance bonds in the amount of 100% of the subcontractor's bid. Bond Premium will be reimbursed up to a cost not to exceed 1.5%. W.A. Rasic is an equal opportunity employer and Union signatory Contractor.

SKANSKA

Subcontractor/Supplier Bids/Proposals Requested

Skanska USA Civil West California District Inc. is interested in soliciting in Good Faith all subcontractors and suppliers as well as CUCP certified DBE subcontractors and suppliers related to the scopes of work below for the:

I-15 Corridor Freight & Express Lanes Project – Contract 1

Owner: San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)

IFB No. 23-1003032, 24% DBE Goal

**** New *** Bid Due Date: July 16, 2024- 2:00 PM**

(Quotes not received by 6/25/24 may not be reviewed/evaluated)

Submit Bids to: bids.social@skanska.com

Plans & Specs can be accessed and download from SBCTA online portal at:

<https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/20136/bo/bo-detail/116081#>

The plans and specifications for this project may only be obtained by signing the "SSI Document Release Form" included in the solicitation as Attachment D. The deadline for requesting the plans and specifications is **5:00p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2024**. Firms may request this by emailing the form directly to Jenny Holliday at jholliday@gosbcta.com. Please allow up to three (3) business days for a response from SBCTA.

Please submit your bids to Estimating: bids.social@skanska.com

General Work Description: The project proposes to construct express lanes with price-managed/tolled facilities for both directions of I-15 (Ontario Freeway) from approximately 0.3 miles south of Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road to approximately Baseline Road/Avenue, encompassing the cities of Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, and Fontana. **Requested scopes include, but are not limited to the following and should be based on the Contract and its amendments:** Construction area signs, Traffic Control systems, Type II Barricade, Asbestos Compliance Plan, Clearing and Grubbing, Roadway excavation, Structure excavation, Rock Blanket, Landscape and Irrigation, Hydroseed, Asphalt Paving, Concrete Grinding, Concrete Paving, Steel Casing, CIDH Piling, Concrete Barrier, Approach Slabs, Structural Concrete, Minor Concrete, Curb and Gutter, Joint seal, Reinforcing Steel, Structural Shotcrete, Roadside Signs, Overhead Signs, Masonry Walls, Retaining Walls, Ground Monitoring, Bridge Removal, Bridge Monitoring, RCP, Drain Outlet, Box Culverts, Geocomposite Drain, Corrugated Steel Pipe, Rock Slope Protection, Miscellaneous Metals, Steel, PC/PS Bridge Girders, Ground Anchors, Driven Pile, Prestressing, Polyester Bridge Deck Treatment, Chain Link Fence, Guard Railing, Pavement Markings, Striping, Rumble Strip, Electrical Systems, Ramp Metering Systems, Street Sweeping, Trucking, Construction Materials Supply.

Requirements: Skanska is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is requesting quotes from all qualified subcontractors and suppliers. Skanska will assist qualified subcontractors and suppliers in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, necessary equipment, materials and/or supplies. To assist DBE subcontractors and suppliers, we will divide total requirements into smaller packages, tasks or quantities and establish delivery and construction schedules which will permit maximum participation when feasible. If you are a DBE Company, please provide your certification letter with your proposal. If you are a non-DBE, please indicate all lower-tier participation in your quotation as it will be evaluated with your price. Subcontracting Requirements: Skanska's insurance requirements are Commercial General Liability (GL): \$1M ea. occ., \$1M personal injury, \$2M products and completed operations agg. and general agg.; \$1M Auto Liability; \$5M Excess/Umbrella and \$1M Workers Comp. Endorsements and waivers required are the Additional Insured End., Primary Wording End., and a Waiver of Subrogation (GL & WC). Other insurance requirements may be necessary per the scope or RFP requirement. Subcontractors may be required to furnish performance and payment bonds in the full amount of their subcontract by an admitted surety and subject to approval by Skanska. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by the Owner for contract award. Conditions or exceptions in Subcontractor's quote are expressly rejected unless accepted in writing. Skanska is signatory to the Operating Engineers, Laborers, Cement Masons, and Carpenters Unions. Subcontractors must provide weekly, one original and one copy of all certified payrolls, including non-performance and fringe benefit statements if required by law or by the Prime Contract. All Contractors and Subcontractors must be registered with the DIR (Department of Industrial Relations). Include CSLB License Number and DIR Number on All Quotes Submitted.

Skanska USA Civil West California District

is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer EEO/AA/Vet/Disability Employer

Estimating Department: 1995 Agua Mansa Rd, Riverside, CA 92509

Phone: (951) 684-5360 • Lead Estimator: Dan Hirsh • Email: bids.social@skanska.com

SBE OUTREACH SERVICES

With 1.5 million businesses in our database, SBE is California's #1 source for diversity outreach.

Advertisements - Placed in the Small Business Exchange newspaper, SBE Today newsletter, and online at www.sbeinc.com

Faxed and Eblast Solicitations - Targeted mailings sent to businesses per your criteria.

Telemarketing - Telephone follow-up calls that follow a script of 5 questions you create.

Computer Generated Reports - Will fit right into your proposal, along with a list of interested firms to contact.

Contact Info:

1160 Battery Street East, Suites #100, San Francisco, CA 94111

Email: sbe@sbeinc.com • Website: www.sbeinc.com

Phone: (415) 778-6250, (800) 800-8534

Fax: (415) 778-6255

Publisher of Small Business Exchange weekly newspaper

HAPPY (FISCAL) NEW YEAR!

JUNE 26, 2024 | 10 am to Noon

New year, new you, explore all the ways Caltrans procures goods & services to find new options for doing business with us.

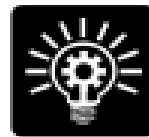
Join the Caltrans North Region Small Business Liaisons

(Districts 1, 2, & 3) to our virtual event as we ring in the new Fiscal Year! Come learn how to follow through on your new Fiscal Year resolutions of working with Caltrans. Countdown with us the top commodities Caltrans North Region purchases.

AGENDA



Look towards future opportunities with Caltrans



Explore all the ways you can do business with Caltrans



Reflect on the past using market research best practices

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CONTACT:

NR.Small.Business@dot.ca.gov