

May 11, 2018

Workforce Investment Solutions:

Richland Community College would like to submit a request to offer a welding and workplace skills training program for out-of-school youth to begin on June 4, 2018 and run for 8 consecutive weeks of 32 hours per week. The program is going to look very similar to the already successful Highway Construction Careers Training Program, but the focus will be on welding instead of wood and concrete construction.

Students will receive 36 hours of math for welding class, 68 hours of job readiness skills training, 96 hours of welding training, OSHA 10, CPR and First Aid training along with flagger, aerial lift, scissor lift, forklift, skid steer, and backhoe certifications. The goal of this program is to prepare these students to interview and be selected in Caterpillar's welding training program, and if not selected have the skills to work in a warehouse or construction field.

The Highway Construction Careers Training Program has been a successful pre-apprenticeship type program for the Decatur area for several years now, and the idea of this training came from that program. This program will not pay the students a stipend like the HCCTP, but will prepare the students with similar skills and the discipline to maintain an 8am-4pm work day since the program will be 4 days a week from 8am-4pm with a 30 minute lunch.

We also feel that it is important that these students have a "mentor" (coordinator) for the program that will be with them daily from 8am-4pm, and will be their main contact if barriers arise. The individual that we have selected to be this mentor not only has experience with our HCCTP, but he has worked with similar youth in Central Illinois for several years.

Richland has the classrooms, welding lab, equipment rentals, and staff to provide all training outlined in the following pages.