

Memorandum

To: George Medina, Automotive Instructor, Butte College

Cc: Rob Holt, Automotive Technology Department Chair, Butte College

From: Sara Phillips, Director, Center of Excellence (COE), Far North region

Date: February 21, 2019

Re: Program endorsement request for Certificate of Achievement Automotive Technology- Honda, Professional Automotive Career Training (PACT)

Background

Butte College requested a program endorsement report for a new Certificate of Achievement in Automotive Technology, focusing on Honda's Professional Automotive Technology Career Training program. Upon program completion, students earn a standardized PACT certificate that is recognized nationwide and prepares completers to become master technicians earlier in their careers.

The COE prepared a program endorsement report for College of the Redwoods that looked at the same occupation (SOC 49-3023: Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics) for the same regions (North and Far North) two weeks ago. While occupational data cannot be isolated to Honda-specific auto technicians, the 6-digit SOC code allows for a proxy analysis. Butte College should include that report along with the present memo for the Regional Consortium application.

Findings

- There are 27 Honda PACT programs located in the U.S. Six are located in CA, though there are none in the North/Far North region. There are 15 Honda/Acura dealerships in the North/Far North region.
- American Honda estimates an annual replacement need of 500 technicians across the United States. Fewer than 140 are certified by Honda PACT programs annually. PACT certificates are recognized nationwide.
- The Honda PACT program requires an extra course in automotive electrical systems technology that is not included in the Core Certificate. Currently, veterans who utilize VA financial aid are not compensated for this class. This Honda-focused class will be included in the new PACT Certificate, ensuring compensation.
- Through 2022, automotive technicians are expected to have 50 annual openings for the two-county Butte college service area, 215 openings for the 15-county Far North region, and 898 openings for the North/Far North region.
- Median hourly wages for auto technicians are below the Butte County living wage of \$25.86.
- Awards data shows 73 average annual awards for the Far North region from the program category associated with Automotive Technology (TOP 0948.00). A majority of awards are conferred by Butte College.

Recommendations

- Annual job openings for the Far North region is projected to be 215 while the number of annual average awards for the region is 73, indicating a gap in supply.
- The COE recommends that Butte move forward with the proposed program due to the apparent supply gap, and the advantage a Honda PACT certification provides, especially in progressing to master technician status.

| COE Recommendation | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Move forward with program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Program is not recommended |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Additional information needed |

Please contact Sara Phillips, COE director, for further information at sphillips@shastacollege.edu or 530-242-7635.