

Memorandum

To: Phillip Milks, Faculty, Automotive Technology, Yuba College

From: Ebony J. Benzing, Research Manager, North/Far North Center of Excellence (NFN COE)

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2019

CC: Sandy Fowler, Director of CTE, Yuba College

Re: Program endorsement report – Automotive Service Technology at Yuba College

Background

Yuba College is seeking a program endorsement report from the NFN COE for automotive service technicians. The report would allow Yuba to modify an existing automotive service technology program.

In November 2019, the NFN COE released a report about automotive and diesel mechanics in the North region.¹ The report recommended that regional community colleges should not make investments in new automotive technology programs due to the oversupply of awards from Universal Technical Institute (UTI) in Sacramento. However, colleges with existing programs should make changes that align with regional industry needs to support current and prospective students in obtaining jobs that earn a living wage.

Below is a summary of key findings from the November report, as well as a recommendation for Yuba College. The report provided an overview of labor market demand and educational supply for automotive technicians and diesel engine mechanics in the 7-county North region. The referenced report should accompany this memo as part of any program endorsement application package.

Report Key Findings

- Automotive and diesel mechanics are projected to have 616 annual openings in the North region over the next five years.
- Median hourly wages for the selected occupations are above the regional living wage for a single adult. Hourly wages range from \$23 to \$26 per hour. The North regional living wage for a single adult is \$11.48 per hour.
- Automotive mechanics are required to hold a postsecondary nondegree award (i.e. certificate) for entry-level work. Diesel engine mechanics require a high school diploma.
- Automotive and diesel engine technology training programs in the North region conferred an average of 732 awards per year over the last three academic years (2016/17 – 2018/19). This includes an annual average of 308 awards from regional community colleges and 424 awards from UTI.

Recommendations

- Yuba College should move forward with changes to their existing automotive program.

¹ North/Far North COE. "Program Endorsement Brief: Automotive and Diesel Mechanics in the North Region." Centers of Excellence. November 26, 2019. Access [here](#).

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

Please contact Ebony Benzing, COE Research Manager, for further information at Ebony.Benzing@losrios.edu or 916-563-3215.