Advance Your Future With SoCalREN

Career Opportunities in Energy Efficiency

The Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) Workforce Education and Training (WE&T) Program provides training, tools, and opportunities for diverse participants in disadvantaged communities to pursue careers and contracts in energy efficiency. Some of the program initiatives are listed below.

How To Do Business With SoCalREN: E-Contractor Training Workshop Series

These one-day workshops cover multiple opportunities with SoCalREN programs or agencies. The workshops are designed to prepare small contractors with the knowledge to compete for energy efficiency projects and increase their capacity.

E-Contractor Training Academy

This seven-week program prepares small and diverse contractors to compete for and perform energy efficiency retrofit projects for the County of Los Angeles and throughout Southern California. The County awards projects using a procurement strategy that promotes local, small contractor participation and an integrated workforce development strategy that stimulates the creation of quality careers. During the E-Contractor Training Academy, SoCalREN offers contractors access to bonds and capital resources, information on sustainability and public contracting requirements, plus tips for bidding on energy efficiency projects.

One-on-One Technical Assistance

Small, minority, and disadvantaged contractors who enroll in the E-Contractor Training Academy or E-Contractor Training Workshop receive personal technical assistance to become prequalified with the County of Los Angeles to compete for energy efficiency projects. Assistance is also provided to contractors who would like to perform retrofits on multifamily properties as part of the Multifamily Program.
The Southern California Regional Energy Network is administered by the County of Los Angeles and funded by California utility ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

The Architecture, Construction, and Engineering Students (ACES) Pathway Program provides minority students from disadvantaged communities the opportunity to co-enroll in high school and community college science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) courses and participate in paid internships. These opportunities at participating schools help prepare students for future careers in STEAM fields, including energy efficiency.

The Green Path Careers Program offers former foster youth and individuals, ages 18–24, who are part of an independent living program, the opportunity to gain skills, job certifications, and experience to launch a career in energy efficiency. Learn more at socalren.org/GPC.

Apprenticeship Resource Guide

This tool introduces local workers to union apprenticeship programs, eligibility requirements, enrollment, and wage information to help them make decisions about entry into a high-skill career in the construction trades. The guide was created in collaboration with the Los Angeles/Orange County Building and Construction Trades Council and union apprenticeship directors and coordinators. It is made available to the community through the County of Los Angeles in partnership with Emerald Cities Collaborative-Los Angeles.

Get Started Today

Schedule a virtual meeting at WET@socalren.org.

Learn more at socalren.org/WET.