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LACCD Supports Small Business Boot Camp



A message from Larry Eisenberg, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning & Development for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

Over the next few years, LACCD will rely heavily on small contractors to meet the needs of our ambitious \$2.2 billion construction project. It is a team effort to erect new buildings and retrofit and upgrade existing structures throughout the nine colleges.

We will need contractors to paint, create utility infrastructures, frame, install siding and plumbing, demolish existing structures, and prepare land for new construction. These are just a few of the many projects on our horizon, and they are excellent opportunities for small businesses.

We recognize that a small business may have some reservations about bidding on public projects. That's why we hold classes throughout the year to help educate small contractors. Because we want to both provide educational opportunities to Los Angeles County and expand our pool of qualified contractors, we have become strong supporters of and partners with the LAUSD Small Business Boot Camp. These eight-week programs, offered to small contractors free of charge, provide the tools and resources necessary to bid on public agency contracts. After completing one of these courses, small contractors will be ready to apply for Prequalification and begin to pursue contracts with both LACCD and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), which is conducting its own ambitious building program. Over the course of the eight-week program, contractors will learn about possible obstacles to bidding on, and winning, public sector projects. The eight classes cover: Bonding & Certification, LAUSD Contractor Prequalification, How to Bid on Informal and Formal Contracts, Public Contract Law, Principles of Estimating & Scheduling, How to Develop a Safety Plan, Access to Capital, and Labor Compliance.

In addition to the seminar, there is a 10-hour OSHA training session. This introduces OSHA policies, procedures, and standard as well as construction safety and health principles. Upon completion, eligible students will receive an OSHA construction safety and health 10-hour course completion card. We know that the Boot Camp works. To date, Small Business Boot Camp graduates have been awarded more than \$21.7 million in contracts from LAUSD and LACCD. By working together, LAUSD and LACCD are facilitating the participation of small contractors in our respective school construction programs. The total amount we are contracting totals more than \$20 billion.

The Boot Camp is free to small contractors who are committed to participating in and completing the program. Previous classes were so successful that we are offering three new Boot Camps in Spring 2006, one each in Downtown LA, East LA and the San Fernando Valley. This is an excellent course for all small contracting business in Los Angeles County and we hope that you will participate.

In order to graduate from the Boot Camp, contractors must: 1) attend and actively participate in the eight seminars; 2) attend the 10-hour OSHA training session; 3) possess a contractor's license; 4) qualify as a "small business" by the USSBA (annual revenue may not exceed \$28.5 million for general contractors or \$12 million for specialty trades). More information can be found at: www.aalrr.com or by calling Gilbert Buchanan, the assistant project manager at LAUSD's Small Business Program, at (213) 663-8839 or . Δ

<p>Univ. of Southern California LA Metro-MBDC Los Angeles, CA 90089 Tel: (213) 368-1450 Tel: (213) 633-8839 Tues. - 5:30 to 8:00 PM Start Date: February 21, 2006</p>	<p>East LA WorkSource Center 5301 East Whittier Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90022 Tel: (323) 726-7734/(323) 832-1228 Tel: (213) 633-8839 Wed. - 5:30 to 8:00 PM Start Date: March 1, 2006</p>	<p>Pierce College 6201 Winnetka Ave. Woodland Hills, CA 91371 Tel: (213) 633-8839 Thurs. - 5:30 to 8:00 PM Start Date: February 23, 2006</p>
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Enrollment Deadline: Tuesday, January 31, 2006