



COLLEGE RELATIONS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palm Beach State awarded \$2.4 million in federal grants to develop job training in IT, welding and machining

(LAKE WORTH, Fla. – Sept. 18, 2013) Palm Beach State College will enhance its information technology, welding and machining programs using two grants totaling \$2,387,539, awarded today as part of the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program.

The grants, announced by Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez, are the third installment of the nearly \$2 billion community college initiative to expand targeted job training for unemployed workers as well as local employer partnerships in growing industries.

Palm Beach State received \$1,249,356 to further develop its information technology programs. The award is part of a \$10.2 million TAACCCT grant awarded to a consortium of seven Florida colleges led by the College of Central Florida. With the goal of launching Florida XCEL-IT: Information Technology Careers for Rural Areas, the consortium will focus on delivering programs that offer credentials in competencies including manufacturing, logistics and supply chain management, and cybersecurity. Palm Beach State will create a fully articulated entry level to advanced career pathway for individuals who are interested in pursuing cybersecurity careers in Palm Beach County through the development of stacked and latticed education certificates and degrees. The College also will build out a dedicated information technology computer lab to provide academic assistance and allow students to transfer what they learn from theory to practice.

Palm Beach State also received \$1,138,183 of the \$12.7 million TAACCCT grant awarded to a consortium of six colleges led by Pellissippi State Community College, located in Knoxville, Tenn. The Southeastern Economic and Education Leadership Consortium project will focus on improving education and training programs in advanced manufacturing. Palm Beach State will use its grant to enhance its established Machining Technology and Welding Technology programs.

“Receiving TAACCCT grants in three consecutive years is an important milestone for the College,” said Palm Beach State President Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D. “The funds will help us continue to provide local employers with the highly skilled talent they need.”

Overall, grants totaling \$474.5 million were awarded nationwide. The U.S. Department of Labor is implementing and administering the program in coordination with the U.S. Department of Education. For more information, view the Department of Labor [announcement](#).

Visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/AreasofStudy for more information about Palm Beach State College programs.

Serving 48,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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