WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

Washington Aerospace Training & Research Center

Aerospace Training Student Loan Program

House Labor & Workforce Development Committee

February 20, 2014

Aerospace Training Demand

- About 1,300 aerospace-related businesses operate in Washington, employing more than 96,000 skilled workers
- Demand responding to recent industry news
- Projected growth in Central Sound Aerospace Center

EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Washington Aerospace Training and Research (WATR) Center

- Statewide industry-driven training center with focus on specialized skills needed by the Aerospace industry
- Since June 2010, WATR Center has graduated more than 2,000 students from aerospace certificate programs

WATR Center Performance Measures
as of February 18, 2014

WATR Center training graduates	2,103
Graduates who have applied for work	1,480
Graduates who have interviewed	1,339
Graduates who have received job offers	1,224
Graduates who have been hired or have start dates	1,161

Eligible Programs

- **Course Structure**
  - Online core course
  - Specialty courses
- **Certificate Offerings**
  - Assembly Mechanic
  - Electrical Assembler
  - Tooling
  - Quality Assurance
  - Other Aerospace

Aerospace Loan Program Partners

- **Washington Aerospace Training and Research (WATR) Center:** Coordinates aerospace short certificate training programs.
- **Edmonds Community College Business Training Center:** Assists in registering Aerospace Loan Program (ALP) recipients into the WATR Center training certificate programs.
- **Aerospace Futures Alliance (AFA):** Represents concerns and issues of its members and provides industry advice.
- **Aerospace employers:** Act as consultants, particularly in regard to hiring practices and the design of loan recipient eligibility requirements.
- **Washington Student Achievement Council:** Administers loan program. Screens and selects applicants, defines loan amounts, sets loan terms, and manages repayments.

Aerospace Loan Program Overview

- Established by Legislature in 2011 to help meet demand for specialized workers at various skill levels
- Provides low-interest loans for students enrolled in authorized aerospace training programs
- Authorized programs at WATR Center and Central Sound Aerospace Training Center
  - 12- to 16-week certificate programs
  - Edmonds Community College, Spokane Community College, and Renton Technical College

Program History

WATR Center Enrollments and ALP Applications

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
WATR Center Enrollments	686	1,103	206
# of Applicants	113	372	36
Recipients	**50**	**185**	**16**
Ineligible	13	146	9
Withdrawn	20	41	1

Applicant Profiles

	2011-12*	2012-13	2013-14
# of Applicants	113	372	36
Age 18 -25	42%	45%	53%
Age 26 -35	20%	31%	14%
Age 36 -45	24%	15%	19%
Age 46 and over	14%	9%	14%
Male	84%	83%	91%
Female	16%	17%	9%
With Dependents	n/a	27%	19%

*For 2011-12, demographic data is provided only for the 50 applicants who were awarded.

- 45% of applicants were not working at the time of application in 2012-13
- Applicants are primarily from Snohomish and King counties

Application Process

- Promotion through centers—application information available on site and agency websites
- Credit and criminal background checks on applicants
  - Co-signer if necessary
- Promissory notes collected
- Funds provided to Edmonds Community College to cover tuition
- Award amounts depend on length of training ($2,400 to $7,200 – average $4,800)

Loan Repayments

- Billed via a contracted billing agency
- Recipients are given a six-month grace period to look for work before beginning their loan repayments
- Loans must be fully repaid within three years
- Interest rate is fixed at the Federal Stafford Direct Loan program interest rate
- To date, 187 ALP participants are repaying their loans, and 15 students have paid their loans in full
- As loans are repaid, funds will be issued to new applicants in future years

Employment Status After Certification

- ALP recipient employment survey (202 ALP program certificate completers as of Nov. 2013):
  - 54% responded to the survey
    - 78% of respondents were employed
      - Of those who were employed, 30% had secured employment in the aerospace field
- Overall WATR graduates:
  - 718 (62%)of WATR grads hired by Boeing
  - 272 (23%) by aerospace suppliers
  - 171 (15%) in other manufacturing or industry

Questions?

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