



# STATE OF CALIFORNIA Employment Training Panel



Gavin Newsom GOVERNOR

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**CONTACT: Tiffany Maslac**  
(916) 327-5276

## News Release

### **Employment Training Panel Approves \$1.5 Million in Contracts to Train Thousands of California Workers in Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Jobs**

*Part of the funds will help train workers displaced by the 2018 Camp Fire*

*ETP approved a total of 26 contracts worth more than \$6.3 million to various industries across the state*

*ETP approves contracts for local companies to improve the skills of their workforce to upgrade their skills through free training*

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Employment Training Panel (ETP) last week approved two contracts worth \$1.5 million to companies that will train existing and incoming workers in important wildfire mitigation and prevention work. Specifically, both contractors will provide an 18-month arborist utility line clearance certification training program, where trainees will focus on drone management, rigging, mobile equipment use, and ground operations.

Mountain F. Enterprises Inc. will receive almost \$750,000, in a two-year contract, to provide new employees with extensive training in power line clearance. Mountain F. Enterprises provides utility vegetation management services including tree trimming, hazard tree removal, site clearing, and grubbing to utility and commercial tree management industries. Training will ensure power line clearances are established and maintained to prevent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events.

Additionally, Butte-Glenn Community College District will receive \$750,000, in a two-year contract, to employ and train over 1,100 workers who were displaced by the Camp Fire in 2018, so they can gain experience and skills necessary to re-enter the workforce. This will include training for Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA's) to prepare them for careers in the healthcare industry. Additionally, Butte College will train utility line clearance arborists to prevent wildfires and PSPS events.

“We are proud to collaborate with Forest Management Task Force and the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to support California employers,” said Employment Training Panel Assistant Executive Director Peter Cooper. “Providing these funds allows us to help our state move toward wildfire preparedness and prevention.”

The ETP approved a total of 26 contracts worth more than \$6.3 million in job training funds for 8,758 workers in a variety of industries. Listed below are the projects approved at the panel’s February 28, meeting. More details about each project can be found in the full panel packet [here](#). The ETP provides funding to employers to assist in upgrading the skills of their

workers through training that leads to good paying, long-term jobs, and is a valuable tool for business attraction and retention.

The ETP was created in 1982 by the California State Legislature and is funded by California employers through a special payroll tax. ETP has a tripartite governing structure, with appointed Panel members representing business, unions, and state government. The ETP is a funding agency, not a training agency. Businesses determine their own training needs and how to provide training. ETP staff is available to assist in applying for funds and other aspects of participation. For more information about the program, please visit [www.etp.ca.gov](http://www.etp.ca.gov), or call (916) 327-5276.

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