

# Employment Training Panel

## Rapid Employment Strategies Pilot on Natural Disaster

Funding helps employers impacted by natural disasters get workers trained to address those impacts and adapt to changes in business and customer needs originating from natural disasters.



**The Employment Training Panel (ETP) is a state agency that provides funding to offset the cost of employer-driven job skills training for incumbent workers and funding training needed by unemployed workers to re-enter the workforce. ETP's program helps to ensure that California businesses will have the skilled workers they need to remain competitive.**

### Definition of Natural Disaster

RESPOND Program is intended to support workforce development projects when a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor, or a determination by ETP's Executive Director that the natural disaster has effected the state's economy or the economy of a region of California to such an extent that use of the Critical Proposal designation is appropriate. Examples include: drought, fire, earthquakes, floods, major storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, pandemics, etc.

### Who is Eligible?

Private-for-profit and certain non-profit employers interested in training existing and newly hired workers may apply under the RESPOND program. Additionally, organizations that support the training needs of occupations, industries and regions can be awarded funding to address workforce needs addressing or mitigating the impact of natural disaster. Standard eligibility and program criteria apply.

### RESPOND Training

Contractors may include employer-defined job skills training as well as literacy skills and basic job related technology skills training.

### Designation

RESPOND projects will be deemed as "Critical Proposals" offering maximum flexibility and expedited contract development. Projects must demonstrate that training will directly address the impact of natural disaster or lead to resilience to future natural disaster impacts.

### Concurrent ETP Contracts

Current ETP Core Program contractors may have only one active ETP contract at a time. Current alternatively-funded contractors may be eligible for new core-funded contracts under the RESPOND program.

### Quick FACTS

#### Training Reimbursement

Up to \$28 per hour, per trainee for classroom/laboratory and interactive hybrid online training.

#### Trainee Training Caps

Trainees must complete a minimum of 8 Hours of Training and up to 200 for incumbent workers and 260 for unemployed job seekers.

#### Contract Limit

Up to \$850,000 per contract, which has a length for two years.

Executive Directors Message:

**"ETP stands with California communities, employers and its workforce addressing the ravages of catastrophic forest fire and other natural disasters. ETP contractors experiencing disruptions that could adversely impact their contract performance should check in with their ETP point of contact. Furthermore, anyone located in regions impacted by natural disaster that may be interested in exploring ETP funding should reach out to our Economic Development Unit at [connect@etp.ca.gov](mailto:connect@etp.ca.gov)."**

Jessica Grimes, PHD, Executive Director, Employment Training Panel

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#### Getting Started

If you are interested in ETP funding for your employer or your workforce, or would like more information about ETP funding, please reach our team at [connect@etp.ca.gov](mailto:connect@etp.ca.gov) or call 916 737 4181.

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# ETP Project Spotlights

## Arrow Construction

Panel approved \$161,280 to train 96 Field Technicians, Administrative Staff, Project and Field Managers. Arrow Construction specializes in burying power and other utility lines underground significantly reducing fire risk in rural and urban communities. With ETP funding the company trained in new equipment including Vacuum Trucks and Ground Penetrating Radar and new proprietary software. Training included OSHA 10/30 and other safety certifications leading to career advancement opportunities for employees.



Pictured is the Arrow Construction SMUD Project, a Sub-Station in Rancho Cordova.

## SSEC, Inc.

Panel approved \$66,930 for up to 51 Estimators, Journey worker Drivers and Laborers, Project Managers, and Administrative and Operations Staff. The company is a leading provider of wildfire debris clearance, erosion control and hydroseeding services essential to ecological recovery and long-term habitat registration. The company invested in new equipment and technologies such as high-capacity cameras and drones. Because each emergency response is unique, the company must continuously retrain and upskill to effectively prepare for the challenges crews may face in hazardous conditions of impacted communities.



After the Santa Rosa Tubbs Fire in 2018 SSEC used drones and GIS maps to strategize the best way to treat the land and hydro-seeded damaged areas.

## Restoration Management Company

Panel approved \$594,895 to train 460 new and existing Emergency Response Coordinators, Administrative Staff, Frontline Managers and Supervisors, Operations Staff, Safety Leaders, and Project Analysts. Restoration Management Company clears wildfire and flood debris. As part of the ETP contract, the trainees learned to recognize, separate and dispose of hazardous and recyclable materials from debris. Training focused on specialized remediation topics including water damage restoration, fire and smoke damages, and asbestos abatement.



Restoration Management Company trains workers to restore properties back to occupiable condition following fire or smoke damage.

## GAR Bennett

Panel approved \$74,520 to train 142 Blending Plant Operators, Compliance Staff, Draftsmen, Electricians, Frontline Managers & Foremen, Installers, Pest Control Advisors, Plant Nutrition Staff and other Administrative workers. GAR Bennett designs and manufacturers irrigation systems and crop nutrient products to maximize crop yields and water efficiencies. Due to California's drought conditions, Central Valley growers need to implement hyperefficient watering and nutrient technologies.



GAR Bennett creates, installs and helps growers maintain the most efficient system for their crops.

## Mountain F Enterprises, Inc.

Panel approved \$504,252 to train up to 252 existing and newly hired Tree Trimmers, Specialized Tree Equipment Operator, Foreperson, and Ground Persons. Mountain F Enterprises, Inc. provides utility vegetation management services including tree trimming, hazard tree removal, site clearing, and grubbing to utility and commercial tree management industries such as Pacific Gas and Electric and SMUD. Most of the company's workers included in the proposal are represented by International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1245.



Mountain F Enterprises, Inc. provides services to many customers including fire-safe councils, small landowners, timber companies, and utility companies.



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Sign up for a live interactive orientation  
by scanning the QR code.

