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North Seattle Community College

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WALMART BRIGHTER FUTURES 2.0 PROJECT FUNDS JOB TRAINING IN SEATTLE

Students preparing for Allied Health and Manufacturing jobs at the Seattle Community Colleges will benefit from the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 Project announced this week. The Seattle colleges are among 12 community colleges across the country selected to participate in Brighter Futures 2.0, which is supported by a \$3.5 million grant from the Walmart Foundation to the League for Innovation in the Community College (League).



The project aims to provide low-income adults and older youth the skills they need to obtain middle-skill jobs, enabling them to become financially self-sufficient. In addition, it is designed to help them document those skills and communicate them effectively to employers. In Seattle, the grant will assist up to 1,500 students through activities such as program curriculum updates and enhanced job search support.

Over the next two and a half years, the League will help Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 Project colleges across the United States to develop programs and services to move low-income, low-skill individuals into middle-skill jobs. The League will disseminate best practices from the project to other community colleges throughout the country.

Seattle's colleges are the only ones in the Pacific Northwest participating in the project, which includes campuses from Maryland to Florida and Dallas. The Seattle colleges were also members of the first Walmart Brighter Futures 1.0 Project, funded in 2008.

In news announcing the grant, Seattle Community Colleges Chancellor Jill Wakefield pointed out the importance of training that will help fill jobs to keep our region economically vital. "Seattle needs these skilled workers," she said. "We look forward to making a difference here and across the country, because we all benefit when everyone has a lifetime of opportunity."

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e Community Colleges Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122



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