

**Laborers District Council LECET Fund Second Annual
Laborers Academic Workforce Program
November 13-14, 2019**

Dear Parents,

As we enter into new eras of economic times, need, and opportunity, the role of education and multiple career paths are increasingly important. The Laborers Union recognizes this importance and is taking steps to ensure that we can help to play a role in exposing youth to the wider range of career options.

In 2018 Laborers District Council LECET Fund and Educational Training Center initiated their inaugural two-day training program initiative for high school students called The **Laborers District Council Academic Workforce Program**.

This program is geared toward helping young people figure out their career pathways by providing an overview and interactive introduction to the Laborers Union and its work.

The Laborers' District Council introduced their Academic Workforce Program during the Department of Labor's fourth annual National Apprenticeship week.

Background

"National Apprenticeship week is a national celebration that offers leaders in business, labor, education, and other critical partners a chance to demonstrate their support for apprenticeship. NAW also gives apprenticeships sponsors the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities, and apprentices in their community. The week-long event highlights the benefits of apprenticeship in preparing a highly-skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of employers across diverse industries." – Department of Labor

LECET and the Laborers' Union's participation in this initiative will enable: increased visibility on the national landscape (project will be registered with National Apprenticeship Week events); promotion of apprenticeships and "re-introduction" of trades as a career option; and a dovetail with plans for new Laborer's Training Center in Philadelphia; and

Concept

High school students will travel to the Exton Training Center via transportation provided by the Laborers' Union. LECET will target three primary school districts: (1) Chester Upland School District; (2) Philadelphia School District; and (3) Norristown Area School District.

Objectives include:

- Attendance by 25-35 students
- Presentation of substantive information through interactive learning sessions on breadth of topics related to work of laborers, role of unions, and employment
- Students gain information, education, and insights to inform and expand their awareness and knowledge about Laborers' Unions

Presentation topics for consideration:

- Role of unions
- Education requirements
- Role and application of computers/technology in the industry
- Physical aspects of work
- Entry level, growth, and career track(s) in the industry
- Hands-on demonstrations
- Presentations by stakeholders including instructors, business agents, employers/developers and others
- Benefits of apprenticeships in businesses and workforce
- Tools of the trade; facility tour
- Workplace health and safety
- Community connections and involvement

Progressive inclusion – candid conversation on lack of women in the trades with female students

Agenda outline (proposed)

Two day activity

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Pick up @ high schools
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Travel to Exton
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Continental breakfast; welcome
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Morning session(s)
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Afternoon session(s)
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Wrap-up
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Return to respective schools

Day 1 –

Overview

Preparation and soft skills

Pre-test (survey)

Day 2 –

Facility tour and industry leaders' presentations

Create hands-on opportunity, possible competition between two or more groups

Post-test (survey)

Incentives

Students will receive “swag bags” with an array of items such as a hooded sweatshirt w/Laborers' logo; hard hat; assortment of “tools of the trade” (measuring tape, ear plugs, etc.) LECET will also research and/or develop age-appropriate materials designed for students to provide information on laborers

Laborers District Council of the Metropolitan Area of Philadelphia and Vicinity

“WE BUILD LABORERS, PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITIES”