Evaluating Workforce Education and Training Programs in California in 2020

Jordan Christenson, California Public Utilities Commission January 20th, 2021



California Public Utilities Commission

Workforce Education and Training (WE&T)

WET programs offer energy efficiency focused training with a focus on supporting a trained and skilled energy efficiency workforce

Career Connections

- Audience is K-12 students
- Educate about Energy
 Efficiency and sustainability
- Increase awareness of Energy Efficiency career opportunities

Career and Workforce Readiness

- Focus on workers entering the workforce
- Focus on job training and job placement in the energy efficiency field

2020 Program Administration

Concern	Response	Challenges	Opportunities
Closure of in-person classrooms	Quick uptake of online learning	Working with vendors and upgrading online tools quicker than anticipated	Plan to continue to offer more online classes due to larger geographic audience, greater diversity of classes.
		Program participation goals were to increase participation over 2019	Increased program offerings, met participation goals for 2020
	Canceling of classes requiring in-person components	10% of classes canceled, BOC programs paused	IOUs researching and testing online alternatives to hands-on components, IOUs reviewing how to safely return to in-person trainings

2020 Program Evaluation

Concern	Response	Challenges	Opportunities
Move to exclusive online learning in 2020	Adjust participant surveys for use with online courses	minimal	IOUs offered templates for online class pre- and post- tests
	Adjust specific classes in sample	minimal	Adjusted methodology to research online classes
In person ride-alongs canceled	Replaced with virtual ride-alongs	Find a good alternative to more traditional in-person ride-alongs Evaluation timeline extended due to technology timeline	Utilize technology (IHACI) to more precisely estimate energy savings due to increased knowledge of installation -
Paused in-home energy efficiency	Paused evaluation efforts until installations resumed	Lower participation rates, out of date contact info	-
installations in 2020	Moved timeline back to accommodate	Evaluation timeline extended	-



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