

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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\$2.5 million state grant to NOVA will help 600 long-term unemployed in Silicon Valley find jobs

SACRAMENTO – The North Valley Workforce Investment Board (NOVA) has received a \$2.5 million grant from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) to help 600 long-term unemployed workers gain the skills they need to compete successfully in the challenging Silicon Valley job market.

"As California's economy has steadily gained strength in recent years, many long-term unemployed have found jobs, but some have not. Many of them are well-educated but need retraining for jobs in emerging technologies," said EDD Director Patrick W. Henning Jr. "NOVA will use this grant to provide these workers with skills training and the guidance of career counselors to develop the job search skills needed to navigate the valley's 'hidden' job market."

The grant will provide job services that best assist those who are unemployed for 26 weeks or longer, including career navigation workshops and one-on-one career advising to develop individual re-employment plans. Participants also will be enrolled in the local chapter of EDD's Experience Unlimited job club, ProMatch, a member-supported networking group of job-seeking professionals customized to the Silicon Valley labor market by NOVA.

Funding for the program is drawn from the Governor's 25 percent portion of Dislocated Worker Funds from Title I of the Federal Workforce Investment Act and is under the administrative authority of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency's EDD.

For more information about this project, please contact Stephen Quick, business operations manager of the NOVA Workforce Investment Board, at (408) 730-7643.

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