

**IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE DISTRICT
REVIEW OF CAREER EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAMS
2019**

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY – SOLAR TECHNOLOGY

I. Program Description

The Alternative Energy-Solar Technology Certificate program is intended to provide an opportunity for students interested in an alternative energy career. This certificate will provide students with the comprehensive understanding, manipulative skills, technical knowledge and related trade information required to prepare them for the nationally recognized Solar NABCEP PV and SH Entry Level Exams. This certificate program will enhance the students' employment opportunities in the growing and rewarding fields of solar systems installation, operation, and maintenance technology.

A. Certificate

Certificated of Achievement, Alternative Energy-Solar Technology

II. Career Opportunities

Solar Photovoltaic Installer

III. Labor Market Demand

The Alternative Energy-Solar Technology program at Imperial Valley College meets a documented labor market demand. Employment trends for this field are derived from a variety of sources. These are listed below:

A. Employment Trends (Employment Development Department):

Occupation	TOP Code	SOC Code	Average Job Openings per Year
Energy Systems Technology	0946.10	47-2231	0

IV. Other Regional Programs

There are no other similar training programs in Imperial Valley.

V. Employment (Perkins Core Indicator)

Job Placement
2016-2017
100%

VI. Completions/Success

	Degrees		Certificates	
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2017-2018	2018-2019
Alternative Energy-Solar Technology	0	0	2	3

VII. Recommendation (to be completed by EWD office)

Labor market information shows limited job opportunities in this industry. Enrollment trends are also declining. Although a new law will require that new homes install residential solar panels, discussions with large industry representatives indicate that current construction workers will be doing these new installations. No large need for solar installers is anticipated.

A change in the structure of the program is contemplated to eliminate the Solar Technology program as a stand-alone program and instead incorporate the Solar Technology courses in to the existing Electrical Technology program. The State Electrician exam now includes solar technology testing. A more comprehensive review of labor market information and industry trends will be completed to determine a final program recommendation. Pursuant to Board policy, this will include broad and comprehensive communication with industry representatives to discuss scope and impacts of these changes.