

Executive Summary

Gas Measurement Certificate – 30 Credits

Post Secondary Certificate

The State of Kansas and its priority populations have a significant need for training based upon the hiring demands of Kansas' renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. These hiring demands have developed as a result of progressive state energy policy and statutory direction, aggressive and forward looking regional and federal energy policy direction, and existing workforce demographics associated with an aging and incumbent workforce. This certificate responds to these demands.

Rationale:

Governor Mark Parkinson and the Kansas Legislature secured the passage and the signing into law of the Renewable Energy Standards Act, during the 2009 Kansas Legislative Session. This law codifies the goal of investor owned Kansas utilities to generate 10 % of their power from renewable sources by 2011, 15 % by 2016 and 20 % by 2020. This makes Kansas one of twenty-four states, plus the District of Columbia, that have enacted renewable portfolio standards mandating a specific share of electricity be generated from renewable resources by a certain date. In response to these policy directives and the requirements of the Southern Gas Association (SGA), the KANSASWORKS State Board has established a State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) to address these directives. This Gas Measurement Certificate developed by the Natural Gas Program at Barton Community College will leverage the Cooperative Regional Agreements outlined in the SESP, where appropriate, to promote regional cooperation and collaboration and to ensure a longer-term and sustained impact in Kansas and across the eleven states which make up the Midwest region.

Significant training opportunities will be created in the utility industry where data projects company retirement rates ranging from 31-50% within the next five years. This certificate will provide skilled workers to replace positions lost to retirement as well as develop a pipeline of employees for the industry.

Courses:

Classes	Credit Hours
Common Technical Skills	3
Gas Industry Concepts	5
Flow Measurement	6
Gas Quality Analysis	4
Instrumentation and Controls	9
Pressure and Volume Control	3

Partnerships:

The Southern Gas Association Joint Industry Project (SGA-JIP) members include: CenterPoint Energy, El Paso Corporation, Kinder Morgan, OneOK, Panhandle, Southern Star Central, Williams and Northern Natural Gas with representation in Kansas and Boardwalk Pipeline Partners, Enterprise Products, National Fuel Gas, Questar, Southern Union and SpectraEnergy companies from outside of the state of Kansas.

These partners have identified the following commitments for this project: program oversight and guidance, subject matter expertise, training material, assistance with funding as available and access to company facilities. This curriculum will be used to provide customized training for these and other gas companies throughout the region as well as on campus at the Midwest Utility and Pipeline Training Center.