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New OSHA training program based in Pleasanton

Institute serves western region as part of Chabot-Las Positas College District

by Emily Atwood

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) is one of eight new sites in the country to offer training for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). While not intended for college students, businesses needing OSHA-certified employees can be grateful for the central location.

The only one in Northern California, the new OSHA Training Institute Education Center will be based in Pleasanton, where the district offices are located. It will serve the organization's Region 9, which includes California,

Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam and American Samoa.

The district office is located at 5020 Franklin Drive in Pleasanton.

Julia Dozier, the district's director of contract education and economic development, said many businesses in non-construction industries require certification training and refresher courses. Previously, people needing certification would have to go to Las Vegas or Colorado, which would be costly as the classes often span four days.

"We have a track record of delivering on large contracts," Dozier said. "Pleasanton can serve Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose and also Sacramento and the Central Valley—it's centrally located."

Dozier added that her department works directly with the community, rather than college students, in everything from welding to sexual harassment prevention. With the OSHA training, she said they are excited to be another resource for the community.

District Chancellor Dr. Joel Kinnamon said the CLPCCD was "their ideal choice based on our extensive contract education department and our current relationship with business and industry clients."

A catalog of training classes will be available in March, with classes starting in May. For more information about the program, visit www.clpccd.org. ■