

Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board Chairman's Report

February 2011

Earn and Learn with On-the-Job Training

Our Mission

... enhance economic development efforts of our region by providing a well-trained, high-quality workforce which supports the success of local business and improves the quality of life.

Featured this Month

Page 1:
Earn and Learn with OJT

Page 2:
A Job Well Done
Career Central Cares

Upcoming Events

February 17
Rasmussen College Job Fair, Pasco Campus
9:00am – 1:00pm

February 28
PEDC Manufacturing & Distribution Job Fair, PHCC West Campus
9:00am – 12:00pm

Visit our website
(www.careercentral.jobs)
for more information on the exciting events scheduled each month.

Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board was among the many recipients of funds made available through a National Emergency Grant specifically targeted for On-the-Job Training (OJT). OJT programs provide a method to jump start re-employment for dislocated workers experiencing prolonged unemployment by enabling employers to create training and job opportunities for these individuals. Participants have the chance to "earn and learn," allowing them to develop applicable occupational skills while earning a paycheck. Employers participating in these OJT programs receive partial reimbursement to offset the extraordinary cost of training workers. OJT will help workers become proficient in needed skills more quickly, which will serve to encourage employers to hire workers sooner than perhaps initially planned, facilitating the hiring of well-qualified individuals to contribute to their bottom line and spur economic recovery.

PHWB Staff have contacted seventy employers in the Pasco/Hernando Region about this outstanding opportunity. To date, ten contracts have been signed with five employers, and sixteen job seekers have been referred to these employers. Four people have started the OJT program, with seven more moving through the determination of eligibility process.

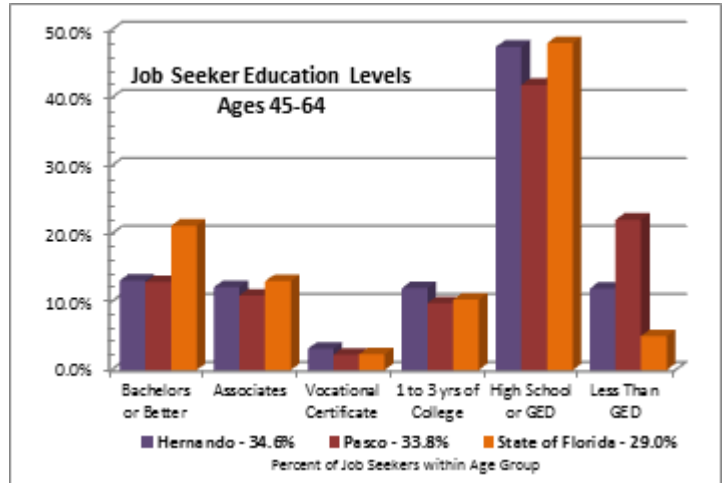
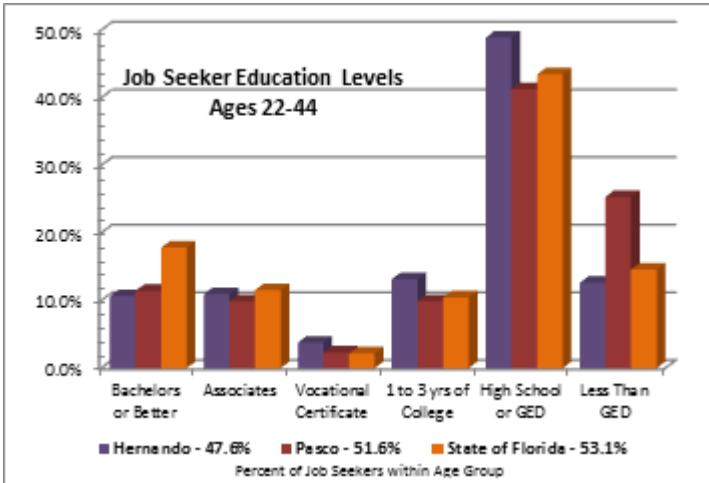
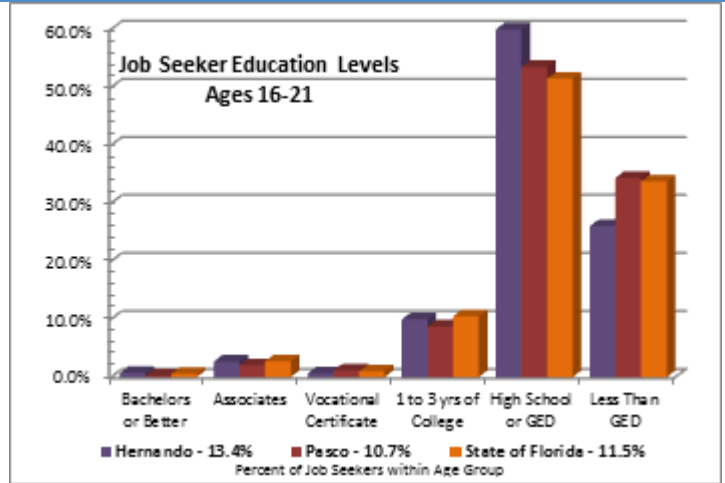
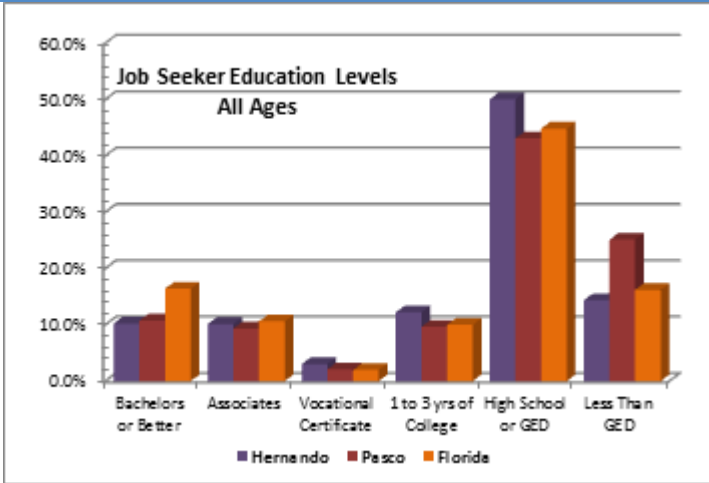


Midway through the first quarter, interest in this OJT program is increasing. Employer OJT programs to date involve positions in engineering and skilled manufacturing, as well as warehousing and transportation.

Funds are available through June 30, 2011. Contact Blake Harding (bharding@careercentral.jobs) for more information on this valuable program.

Our business is helping you make the most of yours.

Labor Market Information



The charts shown above come from the Employ Florida Marketplace website (www.employflorida.com). The data is a compilation of all registered job seekers during 2009 and 2010. Broken down by county, there are 12,549 job seekers in Hernando and 34,444 in Pasco. Statewide there are 1,432,302 job seekers. Consistently, there are significantly more job seekers identified as having only a High School or GED level education than in any other category. As shown in the chart below, from the Bureau of Labor Statistics which captures national weekly earnings of all workers during 2009, those with a High School or lower level education earn far less than others with higher education levels.

Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board recognizes the value in a solid educational foundation and supports the achievement of this through various programs and projects.

