

# Skills Shortages in Sacramento

**Skill Shortages in Sacramento** The Sacramento area is experiencing a “skills gap” in several industries important to our economic recovery, particularly in the middle-skills jobs – those that require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year degree – and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) jobs:

- Over 60 percent of surveyed Sacramento area employers in energy efficiency occupations reported difficulty hiring in eight critical occupations in 2009 at the height of the recession.<sup>1</sup>
- Two out of three Sacramento employers had difficulty finding:
  - qualified employees to help retrofit buildings – an occupation with an expected 43 percent growth rate over next three years; and
  - project managers for construction or design work – an occupation with an expected 21 percent growth rate.<sup>2</sup>
- Employers are having trouble finding entry-level employees for medical imaging occupations – a field expected to grow 14 percent over the next three years.
  - Seventy-eight percent of surveyed employers reported difficulty finding diagnostic medical sonographers and, as of spring 2010, difficulty rates were as high as 85 percent when recruiting for positions requiring subspecialty expertise.<sup>3,4</sup>
- Three out of four Sacramento region employers reported difficulty hiring entry-level medical and clinical lab technologists.<sup>5</sup>
- Over half (57 percent) reported problems finding entry-level registered nurses in 2009. Approximately 1,800 additional nurses are already needed every year to fill new positions and replace retiring nurses and career changers.<sup>6</sup>
- Four in ten companies surveyed in the Sacramento region reported difficulty recruiting information and communication technologies workers – a job field with a predicted two-year growth rate of 16 percent.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Centers of Excellence, Northern California Region. (July 2009). *Environmental scan: Energy efficiency occupations – Greater Sacramento region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/ee\\_scan\\_gs\\_09.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/ee_scan_gs_09.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Centers of Excellence, Northern California Region. (July 2009). *Environmental scan: Energy efficiency occupations – Greater Sacramento region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/ee\\_scan\\_gs\\_09.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/ee_scan_gs_09.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Centers of Excellence, Northern California Region. (December 2010). *Environmental scan: Medical imaging – Greater Sacramento region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/medimage\\_scan\\_gs\\_10.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/medimage_scan_gs_10.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Centers of Excellence. (April 2009). *Environmental scan: careers in allied health – Northern California region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/alliedhealth\\_scan\\_nfn\\_09.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/alliedhealth_scan_nfn_09.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Centers of Excellence. (April 2009). *Environmental scan: careers in allied health – Northern California region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/alliedhealth\\_scan\\_nfn\\_09.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/alliedhealth_scan_nfn_09.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Centers of Excellence. (April 2009). *Environmental scan: careers in allied health – Northern California region*. Sacramento, CA: Chancellor's Office California Community Colleges. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/alliedhealth\\_scan\\_nfn\\_09.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/alliedhealth_scan_nfn_09.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Centers of Excellence. (2011). *Information and communication technologies: advancing digital literacy in the greater Sacramento region*. Sacramento, CA: Sacramento Employment and Training Agency, Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, and Los Rios Community College District. Retrieved on April 22, 2011 from [http://www.coecc.net/Environmental\\_Scans/ict\\_scan\\_gsac\\_11.pdf](http://www.coecc.net/Environmental_Scans/ict_scan_gsac_11.pdf)