



As part of Hawaii LECET's "Introduction to Construction Careers," Hawaii Laborers' Training School Environmental Instructor Kenneth Hall demonstrates the proper donning of protective clothing to students and teachers from the Pearl City High School. *Photo courtesy Hawaii LECET.*

HAWAII LECET

HAWAII LECET RECRUITS WORKERS FOR STATE'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

With construction booming throughout Hawaii, and union-sector market share high, workforce demand among Laborers' signatory contractors continues to grow. In response, Hawaii LECET promoted construction careers to guidance counselors and high school students throughout the state.

Utilizing the Laborers' training facilities on Oahu, Hawaii LECET established a 4-hour "Introduction to Construction Careers" course, and invited high school guidance counselors to refer students. The course immerses students in the work of Construction Craft Laborers, demonstrating construction equipment, briefing them on the nature of construction work, and reviewing the physical and mental requirements of the job. More than 150 Hawaiian high school students have been through the program, and several have since become Construction Craft Laborer apprentices.

Response to the program has been positive among both guidance counselors and high school students, and Hawaii LECET plans to offer similar programs on the islands of Maui and Hawaii once new Laborers' training facilities open there. Hawaii LECET also circulated information about careers in construction to all high schools in the state, attended career days, and built relationships with guidance counselors.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Pressed for appointment of a statewide construction advocate who would oversee prevailing wage compliance, enforce contractor licensing laws, and work to ensure a fair contracting environment.
- Represented Hawaii Laborers and their signatory contractors before state and local elected officials.
- Testified on behalf of major construction projects throughout Hawaii.

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