North Dakota Petroleum Council’s Oil and Gas Education Program
G0004 - 008

Final Report : June 1, 2009
Applicant: The North Dakota Petroleum Council
Principal Investigator: Ron Ness, President
The Energy Career Awareness Partnership (ECAP) was directly presented to more than 50,000 students, teachers, and parents over the last eight years.

The objective of the ECAP Program is to effectively educate students, teachers, parents, and the general public about the benefits and opportunities provided by the North Dakota oil and gas industry. The ECAP director’s job is to visit with students at events and in classrooms across the state on a regular basis to make presentations, conduct seminars, attend career fairs and trade shows, and hold training sessions about the energy industry.

Over the past years, ECAP’s director looked to provide additional time and resources educating the adults and parents who play a role in the future of students. Additional adult functions, including presentations to city economic development groups, added to the target audience for the program. The presentations at these functions were geared towards developing energy events in local communities. Emphasis was also placed on building an awareness of career opportunities in North Dakota within its energy sectors. In the future, additional opportunities that allow for educating citizens, who directly or indirectly work to develop a student base for energy career fields, will be pursued.

ECAP has established itself as a resource for information of our energy industry. ECAP has become a fixture in classrooms, and at career, energy, and job fair events in communities and schools throughout North Dakota. The established event calendar accounts for approximately 4,000+ of the direct contacts annually, with topics spanning North Dakota’s energy resources, exploration, production, refining, energy generation, transmission, reclamation, history, careers,
and postsecondary training. ECAP increased its exposure to the state of North Dakota by taking part in presentations to economic development groups in Minot and Jamestown.

In addition to the direct classroom visits, the ECAP director has also presented at local area development meetings, career makeover events, several career fairs, and Bismarck Ethics Day. The director continues active participation with the ND Youth Council Commerce Department, ND Energy Generation Conference, Junior Achievement, Marketplace for Kids, Marketplace for Entrepreneurs, Job Service ND, ND Teachers Instructional Conference, ND Teachers Conferences for Mathematics and Science, Business Challenge, and the ND Petroleum Council Teacher Education Seminar.

In order to accomplish the program’s primary goals of providing North Dakota’s energy industry with a robust, well-trained workforce, and our students with high value, long-term careers in the state, parents and other adults must also be actively and aggressively engaged in this education process. ECAP has consistently seen that parental acceptance of a student’s career aspiration is one of the most influential elements in career development. More focus needs to be placed on educating parents and other adult role models in students’ lives concerning their career options. ECAP is currently working with schools to include presentations on our workforce development program to parents during school parent-teacher conferences.

Following is the list of schools that received direct ECAP services from 2006 through 2009 academic years: Adams-Edmore, Bisbee-Egland, Bishop Ryan, Bison, Bismarck area schools, Bismarck State College, Border Central, Bottineau, Bowbells, Bowman, Breckenridge, Burdick Job Corps, Burke County, Campbell-Tintah, Cando, Cavalier, Courtney, Dakota, DesLac-Burlington, Drayton Edinburg, Dunseith, Enderlin, Fairmont, Fargo / Moorhead Area


ECAP EXPENSE REPORT:


- Program Coordinator Salary/Benefits (six months) $ 38,800.00
- Travel/Training $ 8,800.00
- General Office Expenses/Printing/Classroom Supplies $ 6,000.00

Total ECAP Expenses 6/1/06 – 6/30/07 $ 53,600.00
Petroleum Council Oil and Gas Education Program Expenses for 7/1/2007 – 6/30/2008

- Program Director Salary/Benefits (12 months) $40,000.00
- Travel/Training $4,575.00
- General Office Expenses/Printing/Classroom Supplies $5,800.00

**Total ECAP Expenses 7/1/07 – 6/30/08** $50,375.00

Petroleum Council Oil and Gas Education Program Expenses for 7/1/2008 – 6/30/2009

- Program Director Salary/Benefits (12 months) $23,000.00
- Travel/Training $9,000.00
- General Office Expenses/Printing/Classroom Supplies $2,000.00

**Total ECAP Expenses 7/1/08 – 6/30/09** $41,000.00

**Total ECAP Expenses 7/1/06 -6/31/09** $144,975.00

Respectfully Submitted by Ron Ness