The U.S. Department of Labor’s TAACCCT grant program is a major investment in building the capacity of community colleges. Grant funds are not used for tuition, but to create or enhance programs of study that lead to industry-recognized credentials, upgrade equipment, support student success toward completion, and more. TAACCCT supports colleges to better serve workers eligible for training under the TAA for Workers program, as well as a broad range of other adults.

To better serve dislocated workers, the Oregon Credentials, Acceleration, and Support for Employment (CASE) Consortium collaborated with Oregon’s Employment Department Central Trade Act Unit (CTAU) to hire a Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) liaison to the community colleges. Serving on the CASE grant management team, the liaison provided regular on-site training to the 17 colleges on TAA processes, provided feedback and information from the colleges to TAA staff, and fostered relationships between career coaches and student services, workforce, and TAA staff. The partners also developed data sharing agreements between CTAU and the community colleges to improve coordination of student services by sharing TAA-eligible worker information, and developed independent Intergovernmental Agency Agreements with each college to ensure the initiative’s sustainability past the grant. Largely due to such strategies, TAA-eligible workers made up 6 percent of all Oregon CASE participants, the highest rate among TAACCCT grants across the country at the time of the project’s evaluation.

C. Andrews & M. Peacock (2015). “Strategies for transformative change: Building intentional partnerships to sustain student success.” Champaign, IL: OCCRL, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Examples from Oregon

Industry Emphasis of Programs of Study

Healthcare

Energy

To find free and open career and technical training resources produced by colleges using TAACCCT funds, visit https://www.skillscommons.org/.

Oregon Example: The Oregon Credentials, Acceleration, and Support for Employment (CASE) Consortium shared learning resources on computer information science, welding, nursing, automotive technology, and credit for prior learning.