



WMATA - Transit Works Program

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(WMATA)

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Key Presentation Take-Aways

- Purpose
- Partnerships
- Program Structure
- Projected Outcomes





Purpose

A Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Innovative Workforce Development Grant Program

- 2012 – Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) determined there was a shortage of skilled workers in the area of bus and other mechanical maintenance positions.
- 2013 – The Department of Transportation (DoT) / FTA awarded WMATA \$800K under the competitive Innovative Workforce Development Grant program.
- The Transit Works Programs will provide military veterans and high school students with skills, training and assistance needed to successfully apply for entry-level maintenance positions and apprenticeship programs.





Our Strategic Partners

WMATA has strategically partnered with:

- The VETS Group, Inc.
 - A 501(c)(3), community-based organization that provides educational, entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and employment opportunities to military veterans residing in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area (DC, Maryland, and Virginia)
- 2 High Schools with Mechanical & Technical Skills Programs
 - Suitland High School (Prince George's County Public School – Suitland, MD)
 - Booker T. Washington Public Charter School for Technical Arts (Washington, DC)





Transit Works Program Structure

Over 18 months:

- 100 Military Veterans will be recruited for 8 week hands-on training sessions at the WMATA Carmen Turner Facility.
- 100 Students in the 11th and 12th grades will receive class room training with visits to WMATA facilities during an added school period for course credit.





Projected Outcomes

For Military Veteran Participants:

- 60% will be eligible to compete for WMATA entry-level maintenance positions including the Technical Skills Program
- 25% increase in veterans hired and retained by WMATA beyond 18 months

For high school students:

- 65% will successfully earn a grade of C or better in program course work
- 60% will be eligible to compete for WMATA entry-level maintenance positions including the Technical Skills Program
- 20% increase in entry-level workers hired and retained beyond 18 months





Questions?

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