

NEWS

From the Office of

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New Aviation Technology Class Available

VICTORVILLE – The School of Aviation Technology at Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville today announced it has immediate openings for a fourth class. The class is scheduled to begin as soon as they receive enough qualified students to fill it. Three other airframe and powerplant (A & P) mechanic classes were held since the beginning of March this year when the school opened its doors.

“I’m very pleased with the success of this school,” said Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who secured more than \$500,000 for the school. “With the state our economy is in now, we need this school more than ever. With the cooperation of the City of Victorville, the companies at SCLA and the County Workforce Investment Board, we’ve created a tremendous opportunity for local residents.”

In addition to the \$500,000 provided by Supervisor Mitzelfelt, the County’s Workforce Investment Board contributed \$75,000 in Workforce Investment Act funds, and \$179,600 in Employment Training Panel funds for a total County contribution of \$754,600.

Graduates from the program will be eligible for licensure as A&P mechanics, an occupation that is, and will continue to be, in high demand. Existing aviation maintenance firms at SCLA have indicated a need to hire up to 200 A&P mechanics per year. Entry level A&P mechanics earn \$40,000 to \$45,000 per year and experienced mechanics can earn more than \$100,000 per year.

“I encourage anyone interested in this specialized training to contact SCLA regarding registration. These continued classes at SCLA are another positive step in our local efforts to assist residents who find themselves out of a job or in the need of a career change,” added Supervisor Mitzelfelt, who also serves as Chairman of the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority, the joint powers authority with the responsibility for redeveloping the former George Air Force Base. “Having a pool of FAA certified mechanics could actually attract aerospace employers to the area,” Mitzelfelt added.

Funds from the County sponsored program are available for qualified students through June 2010.

Persons seeking information about financial aid should call the Employment Resource Center at (760) 949-8526 and students interested in registering for the program are encouraged to call SCLA at (760) 243-1904.

