



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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California Conservation Corps' State-of-the-Art Energy Lab Now Open in Sacramento

- *Funded by SMUD Shine Award & Sustainable Communities Investment; Support from CCC Foundation*
- *Hundreds of Corpsmembers from Sacramento and Fresno to Train and Learn in New CCC Energy Lab*
- *The Energy Lab Will Help Young Adults Find Jobs in Growing Energy-Efficiency Industry*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The California Conservation Corps, in partnership with SMUD and the CCC Foundation, is excited to announce the official opening of the new CCC Sacramento Energy Lab.

Located in Sacramento's River District, the lab will help hundreds of young adults each year learn job skills related to energy surveys, lighting retrofits, and basic electrical work as part of the CCC Energy Corps. The training will encompass even more energy related areas when the lab expands into electric vehicle charging, HVAC, and solar.

"The partnership with SMUD and the CCC Foundation is creating the best and most efficient learning environment imaginable," said California Conservation Corps Director Bruce Saito. "This lab will help Corpsmembers find job and career pathways."

CCC Energy Corpsmembers work in their local communities to save taxpayer dollars by installing energy efficient lighting at schools and government agencies. It's a partnership





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that aligns perfectly with SMUD's mission to reduce carbon expenditures and help all communities grow equitably.

"We're excited to support the CCC Energy Lab," said SMUD Board of Director Rob Kerth. "Together, our commitment to workforce development will provide green jobs as we transition to a zero carbon economy. We're proud to help foster the next generation of clean energy leaders in Sacramento."

SMUD awarded a \$75,000 Shine Award to the CCC Foundation, a non-profit founded to support Corpsmembers in the California Conservation Corps. SMUD Sustainable Communities program assisted with another \$25,000 to make the energy lab possible to build.

"I always wanted to do electrical work like this, but I never knew which door to knock on or go through," said Corpsmember Christopher Smith of Sacramento. "I thought I would have to wait years, save money and get a degree to get this kind of training. In fact, we're paid to be here. There's not a better deal than that."

Corpsmembers receive a monthly stipend of \$1,905 and can earn up to \$8,000 in scholarships in just their first year. Serving a year, or longer, in the CCC Energy Corps often qualifies Corpsmembers for positions at solar installation companies, electrical and HVAC companies, and local utilities.

"I know that electrical work is always in demand," Corpsmember Felicia Howard of Sacramento said. "There are a lot of different directions I can go with the field. To have this hands-on training is very beneficial."

The energy lab features hands-on workstations where Corpsmembers learn the process of wiring and how electricity works from the street to the light switch. There are also trouble shooting, test boards, and conduit bending stations.

About the CCC

The California Conservation Corps is a state agency offering young adults a paid opportunity to improve California's natural resources and communities. The CCC also responds to emergencies such as fires, floods, weather and agricultural disasters.

Created by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. in 1976, the CCC is the oldest and largest conservation corps in the nation.

The CCC has Corpsmember openings every month for young adults ages 18 to 25 and veterans to age 29. For information on joining, call 1-800-952-JOBS or visit ccc.ca.gov

