

Sponsor/Title: TechWerx - Partnerships for Academic-Industry Career Training (PACT) Initiative

External Link: <https://www.techwerx.org/opportunities/HGEO-IE-PACT>

Funding Opportunity Number:

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1)

[Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing](#)

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2026-06-08

Sponsor Application Deadline: 2026-07-15

Summary: The Partnerships for Academic-Industry Career Training (PACT) Initiative opportunity will enhance the nation's capacity for a highly skilled energy workforce to help establish America's energy dominance. Up to \$11,300,000 will be available to institutions of higher education, including up to \$2,300,000 exclusively to Tribal Colleges and Universities. Awards will establish regional consortia (comprising academic institutions, industry employers, and workforce development entities) that will create or expand hands-on training programs and credentials supporting the production of hydrocarbons and geothermal energy.

Objective:

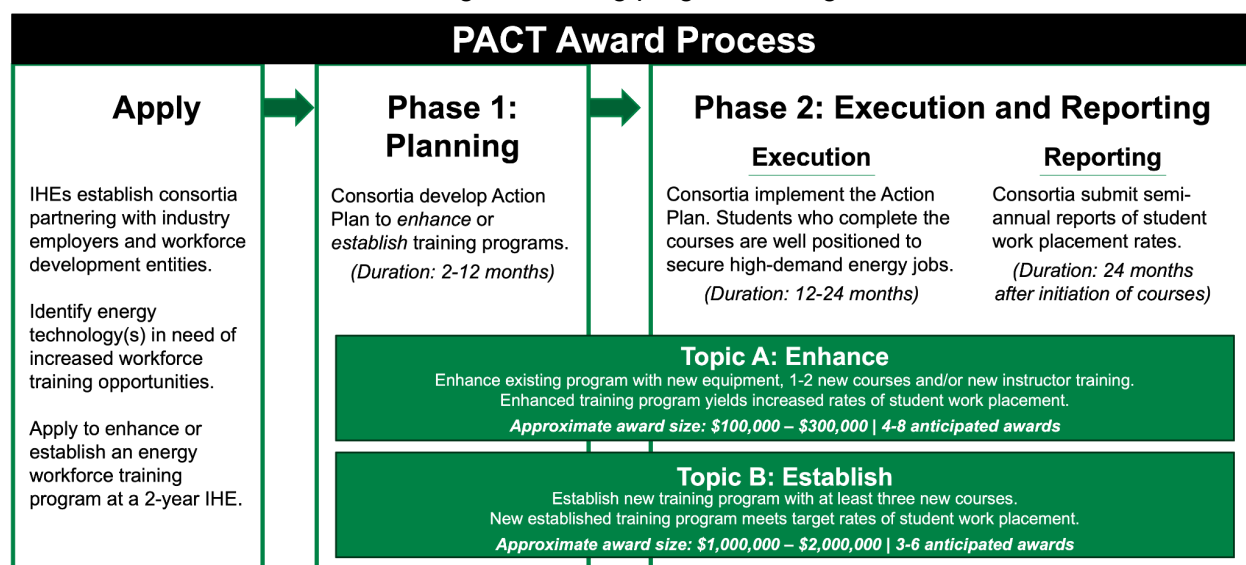
The goal of the PACT initiative is to increase the number of highly skilled individuals entering the American energy workforce. During the application period, each consortium will choose between the two topic areas listed below:

- Topic A - Enhance: applicants seeking resources to enhance their existing training program(s) or reorient them to focus on energy careers.
- Topic B - Establish: applicants seeking resources to establish a new training program to focus on energy careers.

Training program participants will, upon completion, receive stackable credentials relevant to the applicant's identified technology area.

Awarded projects for either topic will involve a two-phase approach (see Figure 1).

- Phase 1 - involves an initial planning period for the workforce consortium to design and plan a training program(s) which leads to energy jobs.
- Phase 2 - involves executing the training programs designed in Phase 1.



Each awarded consortium must include:

- At least one (1) two-year IHE (e.g., vocational schools, trade schools, technical colleges, community colleges, TCUs).
- At least two (2) industry employers.
- At least one (1) workforce development entity.
- The consortium may include additional partners – see Eligibility section below.

The prime applicant must be an IHE and must have signed documentation of commitment from each consortium partner.

Eligible Technology Areas: Programs shall train for occupations that address a regional need for workforce in *at least* one of the following technology areas:

- Integration, safe use, and maintenance of oil, natural gas, coal, or geothermal energy technologies
- Using CO₂ to improve hydrocarbon recovery
- Produced water treatment and disposal
- Power generation for data centers or remote operations
- Technologies that enable any of the above technology areas, including but not limited to:
 - Construction related to the building-out of facilities or infrastructure
 - Applying and using artificial intelligence and machine learning
 - Geographic information systems

Internal Application Requirements: Upload the following information to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/MvN3yVSTiGRo5TD96> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- All ND Collaborators:
 - For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: Three (3) pages (maximum) addressing the following Review Criteria as outlined in the NOFO.
 - Demonstration of Regional Need
 - Workforce Strategies and Metrics
 - Participant Support Services

Questions: Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Internal applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.