

Low-Voltage Pre-Apprenticeship Program

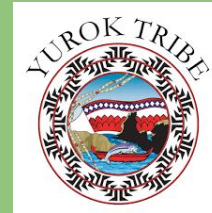
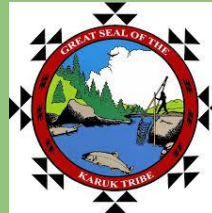
Summer, 2025

Presented by:

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*Director Tribal and Government
Affairs/Sustainability*

Blue Lake Rancheria



Blue Lake Rancheria is located in rural Northern California



Well known as a clean energy innovator and leader. Commissioned first-of-its-kind behind the meter microgrid.

Provides resilient energy resources when access to the grid is compromised.

2016 Obama Clean Energy Champion Award

Why Low-Voltage Electrician?

Because skilled trades — especially low-voltage electrical work — often have **high barriers to entry** for women, Tribal members, and other historically excluded groups.

Without access, people are locked out of economic mobility, and we miss out on the rich perspectives and innovation these communities bring.

At the same time, the **electrical field is growing rapidly**, especially here in Northern California. There's rising demand for trained workers in both residential and commercial systems.

This program was built to **bridge that gap** — to connect Tribal members and others to **registered apprenticeships and careers** in a high-demand, high-skill industry.



INDUSTRY WORKFORCE OCCUPATIONS



- REMOTE MONITORING
SCADA TECHNICIANS
- PROTECTED SPECIES
OBSERVERS
- PROJECT ADMIN
IE. LOGISTICS
- ELECTRICIANS - LOW VOLT
- ELECTRICIANS - MED VOLT
- ELECTRICIANS - HIGH VOLT
- ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
& DATA TECHNICIANS
- STRATEGIC PLANNERS
- WELDERS
- MARINE EXPERTISE
IE. BOAT CAPTAIN
- MARINE TECHNICIANS



- PROJECT MANAGERS
- PROJECT ADMIN
- SPLICERS
- FIBER TECHNICIANS
- ELECTRICIANS - LOW VOLT
- CONTROLS SYSTEMS TECHNICIANS
- IT TECHNICIANS



- FINANCIAL MANAGERS
- FINANCIAL ADMIN
- GRANT MANAGERS
- GRANT ADMIN
- CARBON EMISSION
- ACCOUNTING ADMIN
- DATA MANAGERS
- DATA TECHNICIANS
IE. GIS
- PROJECT MANAGERS
- EQUIPMENT OPERATORS
- TRENCHERS / FORKLIFT
- ELECTRICIANS - LOW VOLT
- WATER / WASTEWATER
SYSTEM MANAGERS
SYSTEM TECHNICIANS
- MICRO GRID INSTALLERS/M&O



OFFSHORE
WIND



MICRO
GRID



PUBLIC
UTILITIES



BROADBAND
BUILDOUT

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

TRIBAL APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

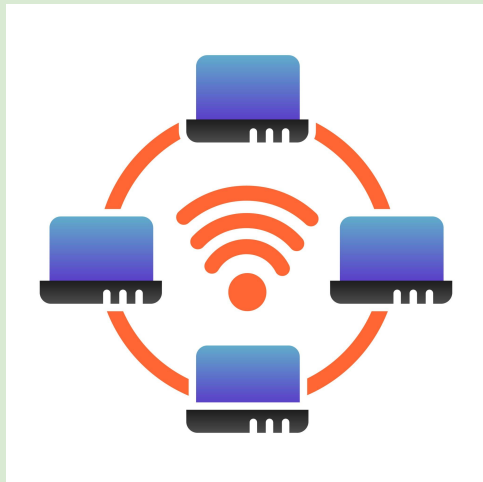
- ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE -

Possible Offshore Wind Industry

- Offshore Wind Turbine O&M
- Transmission (High Voltage)
- Heavy Lift Marine Terminal O&M



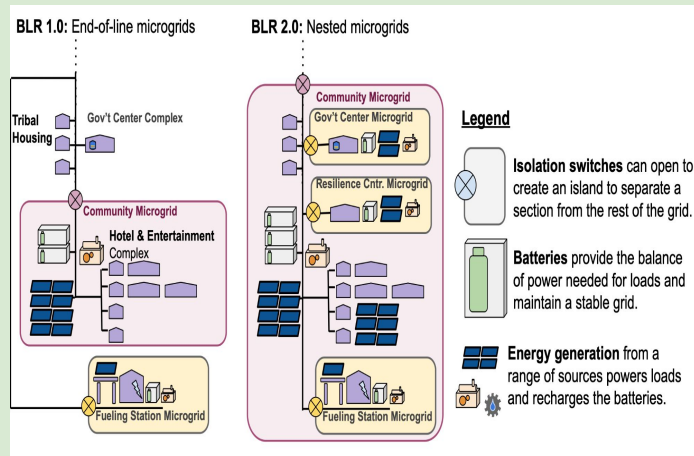
Broadband



Solar



Microgrid O&M



Residential



Commercial



Self-Reliance



Program Highlights:

**Four-week-48
hour hybrid
course**

**Culminating
In-Person/
Hands-On
Session**

**\$5,000
Completer
Stipend**

62 Applicants (ages 18-52)

25 Selected

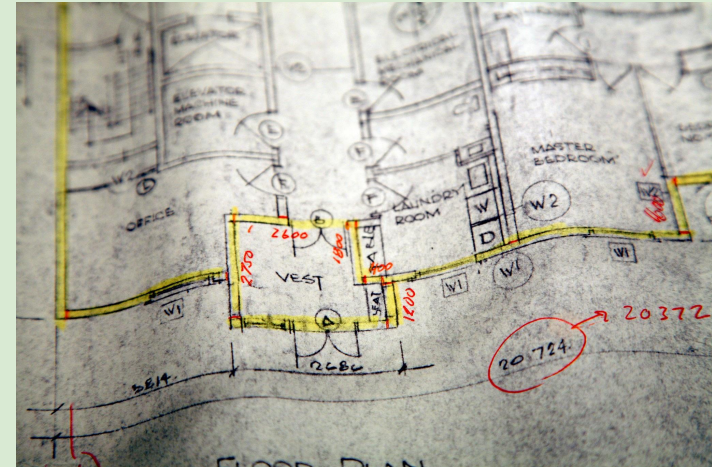
25 Completed (100%)

12 Women

24 Tribal Affiliation

(Yurok, Karuk, Hoopa, Big Lagoon)

- Construction Math and measurement
- Electrical Drawings
- Working With and For Tribes
- TERO's (on-going)
- Soft Skills
- Intro to Power Tools
- OSHA
- First Aid/CPR
- Resume and Job Search Support





Acknowledgement:

This program was generously **funded by the James Irvine Foundation**, and most importantly — it was **co-designed by the Four Tribes**.

That co-design made all the difference — ensuring the training was culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and included **wraparound support** that is often missing in traditional trade programs.

Next Steps

We're proud of this first cohort — and planning is already underway to offer the program **again in 2026**, pending funding.

If you'd like to learn more or get involved, you can reach out to **Ysabelle Yrad** at:

 yyrad@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov

Or visit our website at:

[Pre-Apprenticeships for Low Voltage Electricians - Blue Lake Rancheria](#)



This is a **Tribal-designed, paid supportive program** that actively **breaks barriers and creates career pathways** in an essential and fast growing field

Thank you to the Tribes, the partners, and most of all-the participants-for making the program such a powerful success.

Intertribal Pre-Apprenticeship Electrician Program - VIDEO



16,000 sq ft workforce development and training center and tribal revenue generation program – including wood innovation, microgrid deployment, and restoration/sea-level rise mitigation.

Ta'm Resilience Campus:

A Strategic Investment for Economic Development

GOALS

1. To continue to increase access to local quality careers in infrastructure and green climate careers for local community members in the Humboldt County region.
2. To continue to build the internal organizational capacity of Blue Lake Rancheria as a regional economic and workforce development leader.
3. Expanded collaboration and partnership with regional tribes, educational institutions, workforce, and economic development organizations.





TA'M
RESILIENCE CAMPUS

Ta'm Resilience Campus presents a transformative opportunity for economic development and resilience-building within the Tribe and across the region.

Entrepreneurship and innovation

Workforce Development

Industry Clusters and Value Chains

Public-Private Partnerships





Focal Areas:

Ta'm programming will focus on specific focal areas for resilient regional economic development: disaster preparedness, energy, healthcare, manufacturing, smart technology, and sustainable food production. Within these areas are a diverse range of

existing, new, and to-be-developed enterprises poised to build regional resilience and prosperity.

Funding:

Total funding for the Ta'm to date exceeds \$12 million. The original funding (\$7.9 million) for the facility came from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, in a grant awarded in 2019 as part of a 2017 Disaster Supplemental appropriation. Two subsequent grants were acquired in 2024, one from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal Climate Resilience program (\$3.9 million), and one from the Department of Homeland Security (\$.65 million). The latter grant was secured with the assistance of the 2nd District of California's U.S. Representative, Jared Huffman.



Thank You

