

Press Release

The Science Center
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Duke Energy Investment Creates Opportunities for Job Seekers

ST. PETERSBURG, FL (May 17, 2016) – Thanks to a generous gift by Duke Energy, nine job seekers had the opportunity to participate in the Soldering and Cabling program and earn certifications. In March, these graduates gained employment with some of Tampa Bay's top manufacturers including Jabil, Lockheed Martin, and Anistar.

Recently, the Duke Energy Foundation donated \$50,000 to the Science Center to create a cutting-edge 3D printing lab and support individuals participating in the Soldering and Cabling program.

"Duke Energy is proud to support CareerSource Pinellas and the Science Center's 3-D printing lab and soldering and cabling programs," said Alex Glenn, state president, Duke Energy Florida. "We fund workforce development initiatives to help create a skilled workforce and these results demonstrate our mission of making a positive impact in the communities we serve."

The Soldering and Cabling program provides training opportunities for job seekers to earn nationally-recognized certifications required by the manufacturing industry. Participants complete three weeks of classroom activities combining technical and employability skills training. Individuals who successfully complete the program earn the IPC 620 Cabling/Assemblies Certification and a J Standard Certification in Soldering.

CareerSource Pinellas' short-term, customized workforce training courses are designed to meet the demand for specialized workers. In partnership with local employers, the training programs are integrated with work-based learning opportunities to give participants real-time knowledge of work environments and practices. Classes are taught by industry experts who are highly experienced in their profession.

New classes are being offered monthly through the Science Center located at 7701 22nd Avenue North (St. Petersburg). To learn more, visit www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org.

About The Science Center

The Center is located on seven acres in west St. Petersburg. Each year the Center educates school children through field trip classes; offers winter, spring and summer workshops; and takes science education courses to the community. To learn more about the Science Center's offerings, visit www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org.

Duke Energy Florida

Duke Energy Florida owns coal-fired and natural gas generation providing about 9,100 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 1.7 million customers in a 13,000-square-mile service area.

With its Florida regional headquarters located in St. Petersburg, Fla., Duke Energy is one of the largest electric power holding companies in the United States. Its regulated utility operations serve approximately 7.4 million electric customers located in six states in the Southeast and Midwest, representing a population of approximately 24 million people. Its Commercial Portfolio and International business segments own and operate diverse power generation assets in North America and Latin America, including a growing portfolio of renewable energy assets in the United States.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 125 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at duke-energy.com. The Duke Energy News Center serves as a multimedia resource for journalists and features news releases, helpful links, photos and videos. Hosted by Duke Energy, illumination is an online destination for stories about remarkable people, innovations, and community and environmental topics. It also offers glimpses into the past and insights into the future of energy.

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