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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU GRANT FUNDS AREA PROGRAMS

CHARLESTON, IL.--An Eastern Illinois University College of Education grant to fund vocational education programs statewide will benefit area community colleges, including Mattoon's Lake Land College.

Eastern's College of Education is the administrative agent for the \$308,978 Public-Private Partnership (PPP) grant from the Illinois State Board of Education, designed to expand education and training services for JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) eligible individuals.

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"Without this grant, many schools and other agencies would not be able to provide adequate staffing, facilities, materials or equipment required for new program development," said Charles Joley, dean of Eastern's College of Education and project director.

Of the \$308,978, Lake Land has received \$16,500 to expand its Single Parent/Homemaker Training Program, "New Directions," for non-traditional career women, who are JTPA eligible.

Lake Land staff and local business and industry will join together in advising and guiding women through non-traditional programs at Lake Land and assisting them in job placement.

Other community colleges across the state, secondary area vocational and adult education centers, educational service regions and secondary schools have also received funds from Eastern's grant to establish public/private partnerships with business/industry/labor organizations.

Partnerships include the development of on-site training programs, projects between education and employers for pooling and sharing resources, and pilot or model programs featuring school-to-work transitions and involving partnerships between educational institutions and local business and industry.

Last year, an EIU PPP grant funded 14 vocational education programs in 11 Illinois counties, including programs at Lake Land, Parkland College in Champaign and the Champaign/Ford Regional Office of Education.