

**PORT OF TACOMA COMMISSION**  
**ACTION ITEM MEMO**



Item No: 6A  
Meeting Date: 6/20/2023

**DATE:** 6/7/2023

**TO:** Port of Tacoma Commission

**FROM:** Eric Johnson, Executive Director

Sponsor: Sean Eagan, Director Government and Community Affairs

Project Manager: Leslie Barstow, Manager, Community Relations & Workforce Development

**SUBJECT: TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TIDEFLATS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM ILA**

**A. ACTION REQUESTED**

Request authorization for the Executive Director, or his designee, to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Tacoma Public Schools in the amount of \$30,000 to expand the Tideflats Certification Program offered in the summer of 2023 as approved by the Port of Tacoma Commission in the Workforce Development Strategic Plan on August 18, 2022.

**B. BACKGROUND**

In 2021, the Port of Tacoma Commission adopted a five-year strategic plan that calls on the Port to partner with regional organizations to facilitate career development and business growth in Pierce County. (Strategic Plan Goal EV-4). In February of 2022, the Port of Tacoma Commission adopted Resolution 2022-03, in which it found that workforce development is critical to achieving the Port's mission to serve as an economic development agency generating family-wage jobs and economic growth for the region and increasing operational efficiency and economic mobility.

Tacoma Public Schools runs and manages an Industry Recognized Credential Program each summer to provide high school youth with training leading to certifications that will help them achieve employment when they complete the summer program.

In August, 2023, the Port of Tacoma Commission adopted a Workforce Development Strategic Plan which included a strategy to invest in the Tacoma Public Schools Recognized Credential Program at the \$30,000 level, for costs associated with this program in order to increase the number of youth that could participate in the program, which had been capped at 75. For summer 2023, it is anticipated that 150 students will be able to participate in the certification program with the Port of Tacoma's investment.

**C. SCOPE OF WORK**

The Port of Tacoma’s investment is limited to students enrolled in one of the following certification programs during the summer of 2023:

1. Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC)
2. Drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles)
3. Electrical Interim Credential
4. Environmental Services Program
5. Introduction to Plumbers and Pipefitters
6. Tacoma Tideflats: Warehouse and Logistics
7. Tacoma Tideflats: Merchant Mariner
8. Wildland Fire Certification

**D. TIMEFRAME/PROJECT SCHEDULE**

This Agreement will be effective upon the signature of both Parties and will terminate upon the program completion, or September 30, 2023, unless extended by mutual agreement of the Parties.

**E. FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

These costs will be expensed as incurred as part of the 2023 operating expenses for the Port.

**F. ECONOMIC INVESTMENT / JOB CREATION**

It is estimated that the Tacoma Public Schools Tideflats Certification Program Summer 2023 will train and credential approximately 150 students this year, which are employable skills and certifications in demand by employers.

**G. NEXT STEPS**

Signature by both jurisdictions.