



EQUITY | CLIMATE | JOBS

Vocational English as a Second Language Home Care Immersion Training Program

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

The Vocational English as a Second Language Home Care Immersion Training Program provides paid “earn-while-you-learn” English language and home care skills to immigrant workers locked out of the workforce because of language barriers. By expanding a home care training program and Vocational English as a Second Language (VESL) classes to include a 12-week VESL Immersion Program, participants will have access to greater job mobility and economic freedom.

Participants are SEIU-represented employees from day one and are paid \$23 per hour with full medical/dental/vision benefits, an SEIU pension, and PTO. Upon successful completion of the program, participants transition into Homebridge home healthcare jobs that pay the highest wage in the industry (\$26 per hour) with additional paid training opportunities to move up in the field to \$27 and \$28 per hour. Once participants’ English skills have advanced, they can also take Homebridge’s certified nursing assistant (CNA) course to continue upward on their career ladder. English Language Learners (ELLs) will be better prepared to contribute more to their community; as well as focus on advancing in their careers.

TARGET POPULATION

This project will serve immigrant and refugee workers who are English Language Learners (ELLs), some of whom are formerly incarcerated.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Enroll 21 participants per quarter.
- Ensure at least 16 out of 21 participants successfully graduate from the program.
- Support 13 out of 16 program participants in advancing on their career pathway. After six months of employment, they will undertake additional training to become a Home Care Provider III, earning \$27 per hour.
- Select 23 incumbent Home Care Providers to become Peer Language Specialists, paid as Home Care Provider IV at \$28 per hour.

KEY PARTNERS

- Homebridge, Inc.
- SEIU 2015
- San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development
- Middlebury Language Institute
- Mission Economic Development Agency
- Lao Family Community Development
- Street Level Health Project