What is the BuildUP program?

The purpose of the BuildUP program is to provide relevant technical and skilled craft training related to the transportation and highway construction industry as well as workplace-life skills training for women, minorities, veterans and socially and economically disadvantaged individuals within Maryland. The goal of the program is to increase employment potential for underserved groups by providing training and hands-on experience. It will also provide exposure for the targeted population to employers through temporary placements and job fairs, which may lead to permanent employment.

What skills training will the <u>BuildUP</u> Program provide?

The BuildUP Program will initially provide training on three (3) primary tracks which include: Construction Craft Skills, Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD)/ Microstation, and Commercial Driving License (includes both classroom and driving range). Other training areas may be added in the future.

When will training sessions begin?

The first training sessions will begin in February 2012. Depending on the training program offered, sessions may last between one and 10 weeks each and will occur at least three times annually.

When and how do I submit my application?

Applications may be submitted from December 15 through February 3, 2012.

<u>How much will it cost me to participate in the program?</u>

There are no fees for any of the instruction and assistance received by applicants or program participants. However, in some cases participants may have to incur expenses related to travel, food, and/or other resources not already provided by the BUILD UP Program.

Will I be employed after I successfully complete the program?

BuildUP is a training program that does not guarantee employment upon completion, although job placement assistance is offered and participants will be provided access to MDOT/SHA contractors through special Job Placement Fairs scheduled after each major training session.

Who is eligible to participate in the program?

The BuildUP Program specifically invests in Marylanders who need job assistance, including those unemployed for some extended period of time, minorities, women, Veterans, and persons who are economically and socially disadvantaged.

How do I obtain more information about the program?

Information about the BuildUP Program can be obtained by email at shabuildup@sha.state.md.us, by phone at 1-888-545-0098 or by visiting the following website:

http://www.roads.maryland.gov/index.aspx?PageId=398.

How many individuals can participate in the program?

The BuildUP Program intends to serve a total of one-hundred-fifty (150) participants in three separate sessions beginning in February 2012.

Can I apply to more than one program?

Yes. Applicants can select and prioritize the programs in which they desire training. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements for each program.

When will Job Placement Fairs begin?

Job placement fairs will occur late spring and early summer 2012.

When are classes scheduled to begin?

Classes are scheduled to begin February 2012.

What are the BuildUP participant eligibility requirements?

BuildUP participants must be at least 18 years old, possess an acceptable form of identification (either a valid MD Driver's License or Identification Card or Military ID), be a Maryland resident and US citizen or eligible for employment in the US, able to pass a background and drug test, and have at least a high school diploma, or GED certificate.

Will I be paid while participating in the BuildUP Program?

Yes. Program participants will be paid a stipend of $7.25/hour (based on the federal minimum wage rate) and may be offered free transportation where available.

I do not drive or have a vehicle, will transportation be available to assist me in getting to and from class?

Yes. Free shuttle transportation service will be provided and offered where available to assist program participants in getting to and from their training classes. (Transportation availability will be assessed in accordance with participant needs.