



WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA

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WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA ANNOUNCES PROGRAM TO TRAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHERS

ORLANDO, FL ... On Wednesday, September 26, WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA (WCF) will commence its first Leaders in Science Academy, a series of workshops that will train more than 115 elementary school science teachers from 55 Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake and Sumter County schools on best science teaching practices.

The program, consisting of five two-hour workshops, held once per month for five months at four Central Florida locations, will reinforce, prepare and teach the Sunshine State and National Science and Math Standards utilizing relevant, hands on lab experiences.

“The WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA State of the Workforce Survey states that the most critical workforce issue for Central Florida employers is improving public K-12 education,” said Gary Earl president and chief executive officer of WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA. “This statistic along with the need to recruit and retain math and science teachers has led to our development of this program.”

The Leaders in Science Academy is part of a larger effort by WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA to target K-12 public education with a focus on math and science. The organization has partnered with the region’s education industry to help meet their goals of employee recruitment, training and retention.

“As a Central Florida teacher, I welcome this opportunity to meet with my colleagues in the field to discuss science teaching standards,” said Kimberly Stringer, a teacher at Orlo Vista Elementary. “Science and math education are crucial in developing Central Florida’s future workforce.”

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Other programs are offered by the WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA Math and Science in K-12 Public Education targeted industry program, such as math and science lab grants, club sponsorship grants and the Engineering Roadshow. Visit www.workforcecentralflorida.com/employers/targeted-education.asp for additional information on educational programs and to register for events.

Below you will find a list of all schools participating in the Leaders in Science Academy by county and the dates for each workshop.

County	Number of Schools	Number of teachers
Orange	26	68
Osceola	14	25
Lake	10	15
Sumter	2	5
Seminole	3	4

Orange County Public Schools

Venue: Conway Elementary

Dates: September 26, 2007, November 7, 2007, December 12, 2007, January 23, 2008 and February 20, 2008

Elementary Schools Participating at this Venue: Azalea Park, Conway, Durrance, Hiawassee, Ivey Lane, Lake Gem, Lovell, Orlo Vista, Palmetto, Princeton, Rock Springs, Tangelo Park, Thornebrook, Sunset Park and Wolf Lake

Orange and Seminole County Public Schools

Venue: University of Central Florida

Dates: October 31, 2007, December 5, 2007, January 16, 2008, February 13, 2008, March 12, 2008

Elementary Schools participating at this venue: Andover, Brookshire, Camelot, Castle Creek, Chickasaw, Cheney, Engelwood, Lawton Chiles, Southwood, Sunrise, Wyndham Lakes, Red Bug Lake, Sabal Point and Wicklow

Osceola County Public Schools

Venue: Thacker Elementary—Media Center

Dates: October 17, 2007, November 14, 2007, December 19, 2007, January 30, 2008, February 27, 2008

Elementary Schools Participating at this Venue: Central Ave, Cypress, Flora Ridge, Lakeview, Michigan Ave, Mill Creek, Narcoosee Community, Partin Settlement, Poinciana, Reedy Creek, St. Cloud, Sunrise, Thacker Avenue and Ventura

Lake and Sumter Schools

Venue: Lake-Sumter Community College Leesburg Campus—Math/Sci Building

Dates: October 24, 2007, November 28, 2007, January 9, 2008, February 6, 2008, March 5, 2008

Elementary Schools Participating at this Venue: Bushnell, Wildwood, Astatula, Cypress Ridge, Grassy Lake, Lost Lake, Pine Ridge, Round Lake, Sawgrass Bay, Seminole Springs, Spring Creek and Treadway

WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA (WCF) is the region's workforce expert, helping over 4,700 employers connect with more than 38,000 job seekers. WCF offers innovative solutions to assist Central Florida businesses succeed in today's highly competitive workforce, while providing the tools job seekers need to find or advance in their current career. For more information, visit WCF online at www.WorkforceCentralFlorida.com.