

Green Business Operations Certificate Program

A certificate program is a cluster of courses that provides knowledge and training in a specific field, enabling participants to learn practical, up-to-the-moment skills and information for job improvement or career advancement. Certificate programs vary in length, but most can be completed within six months to one year.

Each certificate program is reviewed and authorized by the faculty and administration of Sacramento State to assure that the program meets the high standards of quality education expected from the CSU system.

The College of Continuing Education builds certificate programs, workshops, and seminars to support the region's workforce development needs; each program is continuously reviewed to ensure that they meet current industry requirements. Some of the assumptions backing the development of the Green Business Operations Certificate Program are:

- More of us are responsible for operating our buildings versus building them.
- More often than not, those charged with "greening the organization" have no formal training in any field related to green operations or standards.
- To move organizations toward operating green requires knowledge, skill and ability in change management.
- To move organizations toward operating green requires knowledge, skill and ability in cost-benefit analysis.

The Green Business Operations Certificate Program will be developed in partnership with public and private sector leaders. An Advisory Committee will work with staff to identify the core competencies and specific learning objectives as well as recommend appropriate instructors, scholars and practitioners to deliver the training.

Possible topics within the program may include:

- Introduction to greening an organization
- Whole building approach to green operations
- Greening the supply chain
- Green vendors evaluation and selection
- Green project planning and sustainability
- Cost benefit analysis and financial performance
- Organizational change management
- Using LEED as a guide to ongoing business management

Completion of a certificate program conveys to hiring employers a mastery of a specific body of knowledge. Further, a certificate program provides the participant with knowledge, skill and ability ready for real-world application.