



# Team Oregon Build Fact Sheet

**Project Description** – Team Oregon Build (TOB) is an innovative partnership between education, industry, state, and community to introduce youth to career pathways within high-wage and high-demand construction trades. Education and Community partners from three Oregon regions dramatically impacted by wildfire and homelessness launched this career-connected learning and disaster/crisis response initiative.

TOB trains Career and Technical (CTE) instructors across Oregon to construct transitional shelters, sheds, and supplementary structures like garden beds, chairs, and picnic tables. Once trained, CTE instructors lead their students through the construction process, providing them with hands-on education, training, and work-based learning opportunities that help them develop valuable employment skills, credentials, credits, and certifications. Students also engage in career awareness and exploration to understand career paths in construction trades and emerging careers in disaster/crisis readiness, response, recovery, and resilience.

**Project Background** – Lane ESD and Southern Oregon ESD were recently awarded in excess of \$2.6 million in grant funding from the Oregon Department of Education through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) fund. With this new funding, Lane and Southern ESDs have partnered with the Mid-Willamette Educational Consortium to create and pilot Team Oregon Build, expanding upon the existing career and technical education programs already operating in these regions. *Nearly 4,000 students from 39 schools are participating and anticipate building 125 units in the first year of activity.*

## Benefits to Students –

1. Engage in real-world problem-solving and develop student agency through construction projects.
2. Explore various career pathways in design, architecture, construction, and disaster/crisis recovery.
3. Develop talents and acquire skills for high-wage, high-demand, and family-sustaining careers.
4. Contribute to addressing local, statewide, and national challenges such as pandemics, wildfires, and the housing crisis.
5. Experience a sense of belonging and connection through community healing and resilience initiatives.

## Project Goals –

1. Address student's academic, social, and emotional needs, including the impact of lost instructional time due to COVID-19.
2. Help create and scale career pathways for youth to meet local and state needs.
3. Build a foundation for addressing Oregon's housing shortage by growing the workforce with systemic and holistic approaches to the opportunities in Construction Trades, Architecture/Engineering, Disaster/Crisis Readiness-Response-Recovery-Resilience, and Public Agency/Service careers.
4. Support community healing and resilience.



**Shelter Models** – Participants can choose from three project types; cottage, shed, and/or cottage accessories. The cottages are 8' x 16' insulated living shelters, the sheds are 8' x 8' or 8' x 16' storage sheds and the cottage accessories include garden beds, chairs, and picnic tables. Construction is done at the schools and the final product is transported to the respective partner site when completed.

**Partners and Programs** – Partners from across the State of Oregon are helping provide students with real, hands-on experience that connects them with their community and industry.

Lane Education Service District  
 Southern Oregon Education Service District  
 Mid-Willamette Educational Consortium  
 Willamette Education Service District  
 Lane Workforce Partnership (LWP)  
 Oregon Department of Education  
 Oregon Housing and Community Services  
 Workforce Talent & Development Board  
 Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Lane, Klamath, & Chemeketa Community Colleges  
 Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
 Everyone Village  
 PIVOT Architecture  
 Career and Technical Education  
 STEM Education  
 Career Connected Learning  
 Pre-Apprenticeship  
 Work-based & Project-based Learning

**Testimonials –**

“These students are the skilled workforce that our industry partners have been asking for. Through hands-on experiences in the trades, Oregon youth are gaining skills that go beyond any textbook or classroom course.” - Jesse Quinn, Director of Community Engagement Lane Workforce Partnership

“So far, what I have seen from our students is hard work and engagement; they are willing and want to learn. Just opens the door for opportunity; they learn about the different trades, and it expands their capabilities after high school.” - Keith Howard, Prospect Charter School Instructor in Medford

“Makes me feel proud and a sense of pride. You feel like it's going to do something good in life, and it just makes you feel happy knowing it's going to be there for a while,” Jonathan Cortez, Senior at Willamette Career Academy in Salem

**Additional Information –**

[TOB Website](#)  
[Media Toolkit](#)

