




# **SOLAR/RENEWABLE TRAINING CERTIFICATES**

## **A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP!**

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## Why Renewable Energy Training?

- Major high demand-high skill sector initiative of Governor Christine Gregoire.
- Identified as a growth high demand-high skill sector by the Prosperity Partnership, and the U.S. Department of Labor/ETA.
- A large demand for skilled workers in every Renewable Energy Industry Sector in Washington State.

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## **Especially in Solar Electricity!**

It is projected there will be between 1,960 and 4,300 jobs created over the next 6 years in the Solar Electricity Industry.

*Source: The Washington Solar Electric Industry: Sunrise or Sunset?  
Nelson, Mike and Shaver, Gary*

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## **HOW THE TRAININGS DEVELOPED! IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE**

- Puget Sound Solar Industry Leaders
- WSU Extension Energy Program
- WSU Construction Management Program
- Shoreline Community College



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## Research Process

### ■ Focus Group

- Shoreline Community College convened an industry focus group composed of Solar Industry Experts on April 18, 2007.
- Their goal was to begin the process of curriculum development for the industry in the Puget Sound.

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## ■ Findings

- Potential High Performance and Zero Energy Building Practices Career Pathway
- DACUM Chart of Duties and Tasks for Workers
- Knowledge and Skills
  - General Knowledge and Skills
  - Tools and Equipment needed in training
- Worker Traits
- Job Titles and Wages
- Future Trends and Concerns



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## THREE CERTIFICATES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

- **Solar/Photovoltaic (PV) Designer Certificate (5-credits)**

- Trains students to specify and/or certify solar panel systems for residences and buildings. Certificate completers will be able to guide and inform electricians who install solar panels.

***Manufacturing Certification available through Silicon Energy Manufacturing.***



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- **Zero Energy Building Practices Certificate (15-credits)**

Prepares students with the theory and practical knowledge and skills necessary for a career in sustainable building design for residence and commercial buildings.

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- **Zero Energy Technology Degree (59-63 credits)**

Students obtain a background in alternative energy and an understanding and application of zero energy building practices.

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## ■ Career Opportunities

Work with electricians, builders, architects, equipment manufacturers and distributors, engineers, consultants; utility companies; and governmental officials.

## ■ Potential Positions

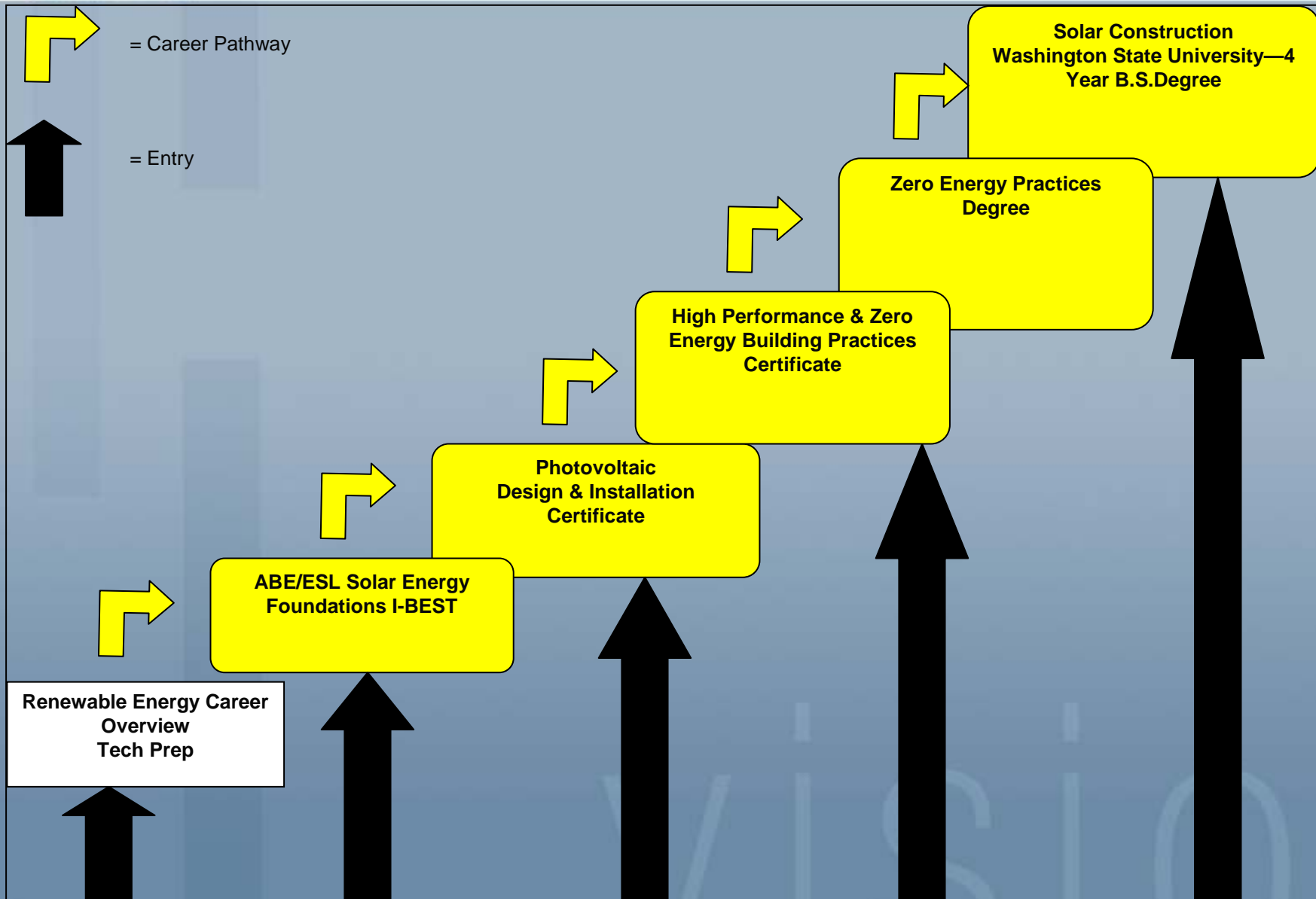
Utility Conservationist; Solar Certification Specialists: Solar Customer Service Professional; Entry Level Energy Consultant; and Green Building Project Specialist.

## ■ Entry Level Wages

\$14 to &25 per hour



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## OTHER SHORELINE ENERGY INITIATIVES

### ■ Zero Energy House

Shoreline Community College is home to the WSU Zero Energy House which is the office of the Director of the WSU -Northwest Solar Center.

### ■ Northwest Solar Center

- Promotion of renewable energy and solar to the general public
- Internships for students/teaching lab
- Tours for the public
- Increase the technical knowledge among students, the community and industry employees



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- Automotive Program Technicians train on hybrid cars.
- Sustainability Strategic Plan to integrate “green” across the curriculum.
- Biofuels Training
- Summer Solar Camp for Urban High School Kids