

ADELITA S. GRIJALVA
7TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE
1203 LONGWORTH HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2435

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION & THE
WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

AZ DISTRICT OFFICE
100 N. STONE AVE SUITE 303
TUCSON, AZ 85701
PHONE: (520) 416-7680

March 20, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am respectfully requesting funding for \$700,000 in Fiscal Year 2027 for the Arizona Western College's San Luis Campus Rural Workforce Training Expansion project.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Arizona Western College, located at 2020 S Ave 8 E, Yuma, AZ 85365. The project address is 1340 N 8th Avenue San Luis, AZ 85349.

The funding would be used to expand critical rural workforce training capacity Arizona Western College's South County Campus in San Luis, AZ. It will support the creation of fully equipped HVAC and plumbing training labs aligned with industry standards, including EPA certification preparation and NCCER competencies. A Logistics and Supply Chain training center will incorporate warehouse operations simulations, inventory management systems, and supply chain technology relevant to Yuma County's cross-border commerce and agricultural economy. These programs directly respond to workforce shortages in construction trades, building systems maintenance, warehousing, and distribution. Funds will also support electrical upgrades, ventilation improvements, safety compliance modifications, and classroom modernization necessary to deliver industry-aligned instruction safely and effectively.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the HVAC industry alone faces a shortage of 25,000–35,000 technicians annually. At the same time, logistics roles including dispatchers, warehouse workers, and supply chain specialists continue to expand, offering wages ranging from \$40,000 to \$75,000+ annually. This project directly responds to these regional and national workforce needs by bringing training closer to where students live. Funding will support the development of hands-on plumbing and logistics/supply chain training labs equipped with industry-standard tools, simulation systems, and instructional equipment aligned with employer needs in Yuma County.

South Yuma County is a rural, economically distressed region where access to career and technical education remains limited despite strong and growing demand for skilled workers. Graduates will help address critical workforce shortages while supporting housing development, infrastructure maintenance, and supply chain operations essential to the region's economy. This Community Project Funding will provide the capital investment needed to establish these programs in South County. Once implemented, the programs will be sustained through tuition revenue, workforce funding, and employer partnerships. This investment ensures that rural and

border communities in San Luis and across Yuma County have equitable access to workforce education that leads directly to family-sustaining careers and long-term economic resilience.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adelita S. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress