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SFCC Offers Contractors Lead Certification Training

Santa Fe, NM, Jan. 4, 2010 — Starting January 2010, Santa Fe Community College offers lead certification training for building contractors. As of April 22, 2010, all contractors who perform work that disturbs lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities and school built before 1978 must be certified by the Environmental Protection Agency. The new community college program is designed to provide building specialists with the training they need, as required by the EPA.

The program is made up of the following courses:

- ∞ Lead Certified Renovator, Initial: The eight-hour course trains contractors who specialize in renovation, repair and painting how to work safely in buildings with lead-based paint and comply with EPA standards.
- ∞ Lead Certified Renovator, Refresher: The EPA requires recertification every three years. This four-hour refresher course is designed to fulfill this requirement.
- ∞ Lead Dust Sampling Technician: This eight-hour course trains contractors to perform dust clearance sampling, as mandated by the EPA.

Lead, which was used in more than 38 million homes until it was banned for residential use in 1978, can affect children's brains and developing nervous systems, causing reduced IQ, learning disabilities, and behavioral problems, according to the EPA. It can also be harmful to adults. Projects that disturb lead-based paint can create dust and endanger those exposed.

The lead certification training program for contractors is part of SFCC's Continuing Education and Workforce Development department. For more information call (505) 428-1414 or email jeannemarie.crockett@sfcc.edu. SFCC registration information is available at www.sfcc.edu.

For more information about the U.S. EPA Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) rule, call (800) 424-5323 or visit www.epa.gov/lead.

About Santa Fe Community College

For more than 25 years, Santa Fe Community College has been the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfccnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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