



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Free Technology Training Available for Tulare County Residents**

*Workforce Investment Board partners with Microsoft's 'Elevate America' Program*

**Visalia, CA** — The Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County (WIB) is pleased to announce the availability of free technology training for all interested workers in Tulare County. Microsoft's "Elevate America" program has made more than 4,000 vouchers available to Tulare County residents, for software training at a variety of levels, from beginning to advanced.

"With the generous number of vouchers made available by the Microsoft Corporation, the Employment Connection can serve a very large segment of the Tulare County workforce," said Bill DeLain, Chair of the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County (WIB).

The vouchers are available to Tulare County residents. The online training ranges from basic computer skills, such as internet navigation, to using various Microsoft Office programs, to specialized training for IT professionals. Certification exams are also available.

"People who want to become certified will have until June 8, 2010 to complete the training and take the certification exam at no-cost," said Adam Peck, Executive Director of the WIB. "After that, they can still take the exam at a cost, but the online materials will be available free for one year."

Employment Connection, the network of agencies that provide jobseeker services countywide, is disbursing the vouchers at each of the four locations – in Dinuba, Porterville, Tulare, and Visalia. Anyone interested in taking advantage of this training should call the Employment Connection at 800-367-8742, to sign up.

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