

ROI HVAC bags

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

Tool Bags for HVAC Course

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$3,344.30 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase HVAC tool bags for apprentices enrolled in the program. Each kit included 14 trade-relevant tools to support both classroom instruction and on-the-job training. A total of \$3,344.30 was expended. Of this, \$3,294.30 was used for tool kits, and \$50.00 was used for embroidery.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Equip HVAC apprentices with essential tools to build competency and confidence. - Ensure consistent tool access across cohorts for instructional consistency.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

There were no issues in implementing the project. Tools were delivered on schedule, and each apprentice received a complete kit. Embroidery was added to each tool bag to promote accountability and easy identification. Tools were labeled with unique identifiers to track use and ensure accountability. No delays or quality concerns were reported.

IV. POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The HVAC tool bags improved both instructional delivery and apprentice engagement. Students arrived at class and job sites better prepared and demonstrated greater ownership of their learning. Standardizing the tool kits also improved instruction by allowing faculty to plan around known equipment. The program anticipates long-term gains in retention and skill proficiency from this approach.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$3,344.30

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The HVAC kits contributed to improved student preparedness and program satisfaction. Apprentices reported feeling more confident with their tools and appreciated not having to source their equipment. Instructors noted smoother transitions between classroom activities and lab exercises, thanks to the consistent availability of tools across students.

VII. CONCLUSION

The HVAC tool bags funded through this grant greatly enhanced Meridian Technology Center's ability to provide high-quality, industry-aligned training. This investment helped remove barriers to participation, supported equitable access to tools, and created a more consistent learning environment. The success of this initiative supports further implementation of tool bag programs across additional trades.

ROI Interplay

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

Interplay Learning – Interactive Curriculum

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$6,980.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase 20 one-year licenses for Interplay Learning's SkillMill curriculum. This immersive training platform includes interactive, simulation-based learning modules for HVAC, electrical, and plumbing trades. The full purchase amount was expended following the approval of the grant.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Expand hands-on learning opportunities for apprentices through gamified simulations. - Provide flexible, self-paced supplemental training aligned with real-world job site scenarios. - Improve retention and motivation among apprentices through immersive, interactive content. - Support both classroom learning and at-home study with a curriculum that reinforces technical skills.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No issues were encountered during implementation. Because the curriculum is cloud-based, licenses were activated within one week of purchase. The onboarding process was straightforward, and instructors began integrating the content into existing lesson plans shortly after deployment.

IV. POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The addition of Interplay's curriculum led to multiple positive outcomes: - Students gained the ability to practice technical tasks virtually, improving their readiness for lab and field work. - Instructors reported increased learner engagement and more informed classroom discussions. - The flexible, online nature of the curriculum allowed apprentices to train beyond scheduled class time, reinforcing their understanding of key skills. - Interplay has also served as a powerful recruitment tool when demonstrated at outreach events and career fairs. - Meridian plans to continue using this tool with VR headsets for more immersive classroom implementation.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$6,980.00

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The Interplay Learning curriculum provided an immediate and measurable boost to instructional quality. Students developed a better grasp of trade-specific procedures, while instructors gained a valuable tool for reinforcing concepts. Apprentices were able to revisit topics outside of class and at their own pace, increasing their confidence and skill development. The digital nature of the tool also future-proofs the program, enabling consistent delivery regardless of classroom or job site logistics.

VII. CONCLUSION

The Interplay Learning curriculum has proven to be a valuable addition to Meridian's apprenticeship training programs. The grant-funded investment directly enhanced educational delivery and student preparedness. Based on its success, Meridian is exploring expanded use of Interplay licenses across additional trades and increasing integration with virtual reality tools.

ROI Plumbing bags

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

Tool Bags for Plumbing Course

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$2,250.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase plumbing tool bags for apprentices enrolled in the program. Each bag includes 12 industry-standard tools essential for classroom and jobsite performance. \$2,200.00 was used for tool kits, and \$50.00 was used for embroidery.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Provide every plumbing apprentice with a complete set of tools for use throughout the program. - Support apprentices' success by removing the barrier of purchasing their equipment.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No issues were encountered in completing the project. The vendor delivered all kits on time, and distribution was completed within the anticipated timeframe. Toolkits were pre-assembled and required no additional sourcing. Embroidery was added to each bag to ensure proper identification and accountability.

IV. POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The tool bags greatly improved the onboarding experience for plumbing apprentices. With immediate access to tools, students were better prepared for both classroom and jobsite training. The initiative also helped standardize equipment quality across cohorts and encouraged accountability through unique tool numbering and labeling.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$2,250.00

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The project has already demonstrated positive results in student preparedness, engagement, and retention. Instructors noted increased confidence among students using tools aligned with industry expectations.

VII. CONCLUSION

The plumbing tool bags funded by this grant meaningfully contributed to student success and overall program improvement at Meridian Technology Center. The project removed common barriers to participation and served as a model for future supply and retention strategies.

ROI Table-top Trainer

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

Mobile Heat Pump Trainer with Inverter Compressor and R290 Refrigerant

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$15,950.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase a mobile table-top heat pump trainer equipped with an inverter compressor and R290 refrigerant, including supporting curriculum, installation, and shipping.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Support instructional delivery and recruitment for the HVAC program. - Provide students with visual, interactive instruction of the refrigeration cycle. - Highlight modern technology, such as inverter compressors and natural refrigerants. - Allow instructors to simulate scenarios such as restricted airflow and overcharged systems.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No significant issues were encountered. No delays or risks have impacted the completion or pricing of the project.

IV. EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This trainer will have an immediate and long-term effect on HVAC workforce development:

- Recruitment: The trainer's interactive display will be featured during 8th and 10th-grade tours, career fairs, and job site events where Meridian is present with a booth.
- Instruction: Students will benefit from observing refrigerant behavior through the sight glasses and from interacting with labeled components. The ability to simulate airflow conditions and read temperature/pressure values in real time strengthens foundational knowledge. These positive outcomes may lead to future investments in additional press tool kits or compatible fittings to further support instruction and training.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$15,950.00

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

This project produced tangible results:

- Boosted student interest during recruitment events by offering a hands-on display of HVAC concepts.
- Enabled real-time visualization of refrigerant cycle transitions.
- Allowed instructors to demonstrate electrical concepts related to compressor load.
- Strengthened student understanding of subcooling, superheat, airflow restriction, and system performance.

VII. CONCLUSION

The mobile tabletop heat pump trainer with inverter compressor and R290 refrigerant has enhanced both the instructional and recruitment capacity of the HVAC apprenticeship program. By combining portability, visibility, and industry-relevant technology, the trainer supports student learning and inspires future workforce development. Meridian anticipates long-term benefits from this investment.

ROI VR Headsets

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

VR Headsets and Disinfection Cabinet

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$12,718.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase ten (10) Meta Quest 3 VR headsets and a mobile UV disinfection cabinet for classroom and recruitment use. The equipment was purchased through Reboot Remote Managed Services, Inc. (Reboot Imagine), a provider specializing in pre-configured and managed VR solutions. A total of \$11,954.25 was expended. The remaining \$763.75 was not used and will not be retained or spent by Meridian.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Modernize instructional delivery by integrating virtual reality into HVAC, electrical, and plumbing training. - Enhance student engagement and comprehension using realistic VR-based simulations. - Improve safety and sanitation of shared devices via UV disinfection technology. - Bolster recruitment and public engagement through interactive VR demonstrations.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No major challenges were encountered. Reboot Imagine managed shipping, headset pre-configuration, and technical setup efficiently. The disinfection cabinet arrived with the full order, and the headsets were ready to use out of the box.

IV. EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The VR investment had several key impacts: - Instructors reported more interactive and immersive lessons. - Students engaged more deeply with hands-on, virtual learning. - Visitors at outreach events responded positively to VR demonstrations. - Abstract concepts were easier for students to visualize and practice safely.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$11,954.25

Remaining balance: \$102.86 (unspent and not retained)

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Use of VR headsets enhanced both instructional effectiveness and recruitment engagement. Students became more confident as they practiced skills in a virtual environment, and feedback from instructors and community visitors has been overwhelmingly positive. The system continues to support both classroom innovation and promotional outreach.

VII. CONCLUSION

Thanks to CIB funding and support from Reboot Imagine, Meridian Technology Center successfully modernized its workforce training with immersive VR technology. This project has exceeded expectations in both educational and marketing value and sets a foundation for further VR-integrated instruction.

ROI Dewalt Press Tool

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

DeWalt 20V MAX Compact Press Tool Kit and Fittings

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$2,950.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase a DeWalt 20V MAX Compact Press Tool Kit and press fittings to enhance its plumbing apprenticeship curriculum. A total of \$2,847.14 was expended. The remaining \$102.86 was not used and will not be retained or spent by Meridian.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Expose plumbing apprentices to industry-standard pressing technology. - Improve hands-on learning by comparing modern press tools with traditional soldering techniques. - Serve as a recruitment tool by showcasing current technology during outreach events and community engagement.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No significant issues arose during the execution of the project. Although Amazon was initially identified as the intended vendor, the DeWalt press tool and fittings were ultimately sourced from a local supplier to ensure quality and consistent pricing. All items were delivered on time, and instructional integration began as scheduled.

IV. POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The addition of the press tool positively impacted the program in several ways: - Students became more engaged when introduced to the newer, cleaner method of pipe joining. - Instructors were able to facilitate in-depth discussions comparing the cost, safety, and efficiency of pressing versus soldering. - The tool served as a focal point during recruitment events, increasing prospective student interest and helping to illustrate the evolving nature of the plumbing trade. These positive outcomes may lead to future investments in additional press tool kits or compatible fittings to further

support instruction and training.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$2,847.14

Remaining balance: \$102.86 (unspent and not retained)

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The implementation of the press tool and fittings generated several measurable successes: - Apprentices developed skills with tools currently used on job sites, boosting their confidence and employability. - Prospective students expressed increased interest after observing the press tool during recruitment demonstrations. - The tool expanded instructional opportunities by allowing side-by-side evaluation of pressing and soldering techniques.

VII. CONCLUSION

The DeWalt press tool and fittings funded by this grant significantly enhanced the plumbing apprenticeship program at Meridian Technology Center. The investment directly supported student learning, improved instructional delivery, and contributed to recruitment efforts. Based on the success of this project, Meridian is considering similar equipment upgrades in other trades programs to support hands-on, industry-relevant training.

ROI Electrical Bags

Workforce Development Project Return on Investment Report

Tool Bags for Electrical Course

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Meridian Technology Center received \$6,600.00 in grant funding from the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board (CIB) to purchase tool bags for apprentices in the Electrical program. Each tool bag includes 26 essential items needed for training and on-the-job use.

II. PROJECT GOALS

The project aimed to: - Equip each electrical apprentice with a complete tool bag to support both in-class and jobsite learning. - Promote retention by ensuring apprentices have access to quality tools.

III. ISSUES IN MEETING GOALS

No major issues were encountered in executing the project. Tools were sourced from TechSource, and all items were received and distributed on schedule. Embroidery was added to each bag to ensure proper identification, which accounted for a small, final portion of the budget.

IV. POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Providing tool bags at the beginning of the program improved student confidence and reduced financial barriers to participation. Apprentices demonstrated greater pride and responsibility in using their equipment, and instructors reported increased engagement. The visibility of the toolkits also served as a strong recruitment tool during classroom visits and career fairs. Future expansions of this model are being considered for other trades programs.

V. ACCOUNTING AND DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditure: \$6,600.00

VI. SUCCESS AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The project successfully addressed tool access barriers for apprentices and improved program outcomes. The kits ensured that students had what they needed to succeed from day one and

contributed to a positive classroom and lab environment.

VII. CONCLUSION

The tool bags funded by this grant significantly enhanced the quality and impact of the Electrical apprenticeship program at Meridian Technology Center. This initiative supported student success, improved classroom performance, and increased program visibility during outreach efforts.