

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VIHFA Releases \$2.5 Million First Payment for Program Aimed at Training Over 600 Virgin Islanders in High-Growth Occupations

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The V.I. Housing Finance Authority said Thursday it has released \$2.5 million in payment to Incorporated LLC, (ICF), the company contracted to administer the Virgin Islands Department of Labor's (VIDOL) Skills for Today program. The payment represents the first of a series of milestones the program will meet in its objective to offer entry-level training in high-growth occupations for low and moderate income residents of the territory, VIHFA said.

According to the release, over the course of two years, the Labor Department through its contractor will engage in workforce development to train over 600 individuals through work-based learning, on-the-job training, and industry-recognized apprenticeships in construction, administrative services, and local labor industries to include hospitality, marine, healthcare, and information technology.

The Labor Department said ICF Incorporated, LLC, received a total of 193 interest forms for the program which were converted into 124 completed applications.

The "Skills for Today" program is administered under the VIHFA Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery's Economic Revitalization Program which meets the urgent need national objective in workforce development, according to the release.

For more information about the Skills for Today program, contact the VI Department of Labor at (340) 773-1994.