Inspired by the success of a statewide consortium focused on construction training, the State University of New York (SUNY) reached out to several colleges to see which ones were interested in forming a clean energy consortium. SUNY asked Alfred State College to take the lead based on its grant experience and training programs in solar electric and small wind technology.

Alfred State College, the Association of Builders and Contractors (ABC), and six community college partners that include Tompkins Cortland, Broome, Dutchess, Mohawk Valley, Sullivan, and Westchester banded together to form SUNYgreensNY. It offers a single statewide source for solar electric, solar thermal, geothermal, and wind energy technology training. NYSERDA awarded the consortium a grant in 2008 to help its members develop clean energy training modules and acquire laboratory equipment at each of the seven locations.

Program alum started his own company

Today, the consortium helps students, such as recent Alfred State College alum Sean Kelley, sharpen their skills by integrating renewable energy modules into existing courses of study. As a student in the electrical construction and maintenance electrician program, Sean was able to combine a strong foundation in electrical training with renewable technology training.

Since earning his two-year degree, Sean has participated in the installation of two different solar electric systems at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., earned certification from the North American Board of Certified Energy Professionals (NABCEP), and has worked on several renewable energy projects at Alfred State.

“I have a unique perspective in that I am a recent graduate who has also worked with students on several different projects. I can tell you that the excitement it brought me to work on these emerging technologies continues to be displayed in the current students.”

— Sean Kelley
Alum, Alfred State College
College. As a NYSERDA-approved solar electric installer, Sean now runs his own company designing and installing residential solar electric systems.

**Get started**

Call 1-866-NYSERDA or visit nyserda.ny.gov/workforce today and take the first step toward making a positive change for our economy, our environment, and our world.

For more information on SUNYgreensNY, call 1-607-587-3101 or email clarkcr@alfredstate.edu.