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Talent Gap Looms for Quality Facilities Managers

San Bernardino County is launching a program to fulfill the growing demand for quality facilities managers.

By [Kelsi Maree Borland \(/author/profile/Kelsi-Maree-Borland/\)](#) | October 05, 2018 at 04:00 AM

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<https://images.globest.com/contrib/content/uploads/sites/311/2018/10/Screenshot-2018-10-03-at-5.16.37-PM.png>) San Bernardino County has experienced tremendous growth this cycle across asset classes, and it is driving an increased demand for quality facilities managers. Putting more pressure on the demand, fewer people are pursuing careers in facilities management. The average age of facilities managers is currently 49 years old, and by 2032, half of the current facilities management workforce will be retired. As a result, there is a looping gap in facilities manager talent. To subvert a potential labor shortage in this area, **San Bernardino County, Chaffey College** and the **IFMA Foundation** have launched the first accredited facilities management program at Chaffey College to help encourage people into the field.

“San Bernardino County has experienced an outstanding amount of new development,” **Soua Vang**, economic development manager at **San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency**, tells GlobeSt.com. “For example, CBRE noted in its 2Q Inland Empire industrial report that new completions reached 12.8

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million square feet over the last quarter, with year-to-date positive net absorption reaching over 10.2 million square feet. As new facilities in all property types come on line, the demand for facilities managers will also continue to increase. So we need a skilled talent pool to handle new building demands. Today's facility management professional plays a critical role not just in the day-to-day disciplines but also integrating strategic duties such as employee development, finance as well technology management to ensure functionality of a built environment."

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