

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources

Disseminated monthly by the
U. S. Department of Labor, Office of National Programs,
Division of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program
200 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20210
<http://wdsc.doleta.gov/msfw>

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Upcoming Events

- **March 3-4** 2005 Pacific Northwest Farmworker Summit Portland, OR;
Contact: Ron Hauge, Oregon Human Development Corp.
rhauge@ohdc.org
- **March 14-17** 2005 MAFO and Monitor Advocate Training, Orange Grove, CA. **See note about a special ETA Workshop below** 
- **April 6-9** [2005 Association of Job Search Trainers Annual Conference](#).
"PEOPLE OF PURPOSE: Training America's Workforce Providers.
Orlando, FL
- **April 9-12, 2005** [85th AACC Annual Convention](#), Bridging Access to Success;
Hynes Convention Center. Boston, MA
- **April 11-14, 2005** [Heartland Professional Development Symposium](#)
Adam's Mark Hotel – St. Louis, MO
- **May 1-4** [NAWDP Annual Conference](#) Miami Beach, FL

An additional Workforce System-Wide Calendar of Events provided by the Employment and Training Administration, <http://www.workforcetools.org/calendar.asp>, can also be found on the "Workforce Tools for the Trade," a USDOL website designed to help workforce development professionals excel.



New MAFO workshop for financial management staff: Revised Financial Reporting Training! Tuesday, March 15 from 10:15am-11:45am

The quarterly Financial Status Report (ETA- 9092) currently required for ETA's National Farmworker Jobs Program grantees is being revised. Workshop will provide grantees with up-front knowledge of newly required line items, as well as reinforcement/clarification on all required data elements. Emphasis will be placed on ETA's requirement for accrual reporting; providing clear distinctions between accrued expenditures and obligations.

Department Initiatives

OSHA Offers New Hispanic Outreach Web Tool

On January 10, 2005, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration unveiled a new Hispanic Outreach Module for its Compliance Assistance Quick Start web tool, the agency's web-based tool that provides a step-by-step guide to identify

OSHA requirements and guidance materials for specific workplaces.

The Hispanic Outreach Module will assist employers with a Spanish-speaking workforce to learn more about workplace rights and responsibilities, identify Spanish-language outreach and training resources, and how to work cooperatively with OSHA. In addition, it provides a list of OSHA's

Hispanic/English-as-a- second- language coordinators.

"This new Hispanic outreach tool is another step in our ongoing efforts to provide the most useful and accessible information possible so that employers, employees and businesses stay safe, healthy, and successful," said Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jonathan L. Snare. "It's important that we continue to do all we can to inform workers and employers about how OSHA can provide assistance to those who need it."

Visitors to the site can use a step-by-step guide to identify OSHA Spanish-language resources on OSHA's website that will help them comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 as well as help them to prevent employee workplace injuries and illnesses. The site also includes OSHA English-Spanish and Spanish-English Dictionaries (with phonetic pronunciation guides) that contain over 2,000 general OSHA and construction safety and health industry terms.

Compliance Assistance Quick Start is on OSHA's Compliance Assistance web page and provides step-by-step guidance on how to identify OSHA requirements and guidance materials that may apply to specific workplaces. It also has a General Industry module for workplaces that are subject to OSHA's general industry standards, including manufacturing, wholesale, and retail establishments. The General Industry module includes a library that lists a collection of forms, fact sheets, publications, OSHA web pages and electronic tools, and sample programs.

Employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure the safety and health of America's workers by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual improvement in workplace safety

and health. For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>.

America's Career InfoNet: Opportunity to Comment on New Features (Certification Finder, New Industry Profile Tool, Enhanced Employer Locator Searches)

The America's Career InfoNet team is looking for help in testing some new features and functionality. When you visit the current site (www.acinet.org), please select the selection "Go to Career InfoNet Test Site" in the red box.

You will find that the remodeled site offers:

- Homepage improvements that allow users to quickly find resources;
- A streamlined left-hand menu bar with clear options;
- Improved help features;
- More user-friendly reports for the Occupational Profiles, with the ability to carry over selected options to new reports;
- A new Industry Profile tool to research industries, businesses and related trends;
- An improved Certification Finder with the ability to easily search by specific occupation, industry and keywords;
- Reorganized Career Videos; and
- Easier searches on the Employer Locator.

The workforce community is encouraged to email feedback to the team at career.onestop@state.mn.us. Please describe specific problems and bugs you encountered, and include the URL where you located the problem along with a description of how the team can reproduce it.

Regional Announcements

REGION II

- **North Carolina Textile Firm Moving to Henry County, VA:** Texturing Services Inc., presently located in North Carolina, is moving its manufacturing operations to the former VF Imagewear facility near Martinsville, Virginia. The company processes custom specialty yarns. It will invest \$14 million on the relocation and expects to hire 200 workers in the next 30 months.
- **America Online Partner to Expand Call Center to Southwest, Virginia:** Virtus Marketing opened a start-up center in Norton, VA and will invest \$100,000 to expand its operation. This expansion will create 35 new positions.
- **CSX to Fill Conductor Positions in Maryland:** CSX Transportation plans to fill 17 conductor positions in Cumberland, Maryland. The applicants will be trained through the Marshall Community and Technical College in Huntington, West Virginia.
- **Mexican Foods Firm to Bring 232 Jobs to Northeastern PA:** A worldwide Mexican foods company will open a \$33.9 million tortilla manufacturing and distribution plant this year in Wright Township, bringing an estimated 232 jobs to the area.
- **Maryland Recorded 55,200 New Jobs in 2004:** Maryland employers added 55,200 jobs last year. Maryland was not as badly affected by the nationwide recession as most states, although the past few years have been slow, according to a Baltimore economic policy and consulting firm. Economists say that the State is benefiting from increased federal spending in defense, along with gains in construction, financial services, health care and transportation.
- **Philadelphia Inquirer Reports, "it's a good time to find a job" in Philadelphia:** The 106 companies at this week's annual job fair came with job openings. Recruiters from Lockheed Martin Corp. said "it was looking to fill

1,500 positions in the Philadelphia area." Recruiters from one of the area's largest banks, Commerce, said "we have a ton of jobs open."

- **Firm to Open Plant in Virginia:** Lindstrand USA Inc. announced that it plans to invest \$2.5 million to open its first U.S. plant in Halifax County, VA. The company manufactures inflatable structures such as flood barriers, portable bridges and aircraft hangars. The project will create 50 new jobs. Virginia successfully competed with California, Kentucky and Texas for the project. Lindstrand USA designs products for the homeland security, portable first-aid and logistics, and recreation markets. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership worked with the Industrial Development Authority of Halifax County, the Virginia Employment Commission and Danville Community College to prepare the state's proposal and negotiate an incentive package to secure the project for Virginia. The Virginia Department of Business Assistance will partner with Danville Community College to provide training through its Workforce Services Program.

REGION III

- **Two Wood Companies Plan to Create 112 Jobs in Summerville, South Carolina:** A wood-shipping company and a wood products manufacturer plan to invest more than \$10 million and add 112 new jobs when they build facilities on adjacent properties in Summerville. ECMD, Inc., and International Transloaders are building distribution centers and manufacturing facilities on adjacent properties. ECMD will make wood moldings, stair components and other building products in the new facility and plans to increase its existing payroll by 72 jobs over five years. International Transloaders, a startup business, plans to hire 40 workers over the next five

years and say the facility should be open by June.

- **Saxotech Picks Tampa:** Saxotech Incorporated, a maker of software used in online publishing and content management, has relocated its headquarters to Tampa from Rockville, Maryland, and plans to hire 30 or more new employees, primarily in software development and customer service.
- **Tool and Die Company Brings Jobs to Dickson:** MetriCan Stamping Corporation of Burlington, Ontario, is building a factory in Dickson Tennessee, with a scheduled opening in June. This will create 50 jobs in the area.

REGION V

- **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel** reported Milwaukee area job-seekers might find it easier to apply for work this summer at **Wisconsin tourist spots**, as state officials work to offset a flood of seasonal workers from foreign countries. The state Department of Tourism is considering creating a Web site to promote job opportunities at summer attractions where thousands of jobs have been filled in recent years by imported labor from Poland, Finland and elsewhere. Other possible solutions include expansion of a state-run apprenticeship. For years, tourist attractions in the Wisconsin Dells, Door County and elsewhere in the state have gone overseas to recruit seasonal workers, typically college students eager to spend a summer in the United States. In the Wisconsin Dells alone, the summer tourist season creates about 8,500 jobs at theme parks,

restaurants, hotels and other businesses. Terry Craney, executive director of the Governor's Work-Based Learning Board in the state Department of Workforce Development operates an apprenticeship program that places about 2,500 Wisconsin high school student in jobs that earn them extra classroom credit while introducing them to future career opportunities. State tourism officials have approached Craney about whether the concept could be adapted to match young people with summer tourist jobs. That effort would have to overcome such obstacles as transportation and housing, although many employers have dormitory-style housing available for the foreign workers who flock here every summer. For now, state tourism officials are considering trying to persuade tourist attractions to post their seasonal job openings on a Web site that could be promoted in the state's largest labor market - Milwaukee.

- **Associated Press** reported **General Motors** stated it would spend \$175 million to retool its truck assembly plant near Fort Wayne, IN to prepare it for production of new full-size pickup models. The project will add about 200 jobs at the plant, where some 2,900 workers build Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra trucks. New machinery, equipment and special tooling are part of the improvements, which began in early December, the company said. About 247,000 pickup trucks were produced at the plant during 2004, GM said. The upgrades will prepare the plant for production of the next generation of the models. The company said last month it would invest \$150 million in a similar upgrade at its truck assembly plant in Flint, Mich.

Other Announcements

ETA Publishes WIA and Wagner-Peyser Planning Guidance in February

7 FEDERAL REGISTER; OMB Seeks

Comments on Revision of Guidance

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is seeking an extension and revision of a currently approved information collection – *Planning Guidance and Instructions for Submission of the Strategic Five Year State Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) and the Wagner Peyser Act.*

The [February 7 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) notes: All current WIA Strategic Plans will expire June 30, 2005. It is unlikely that Congress will pass a reauthorized Workforce Investment Act (WIA) before that time. Therefore, the enclosed Proposed WIA Planning Guidance is designed to advise States about how to continue their WIA Title I and Wagner-Peyser programs under [Public Law 105-220](#).

The State Planning Guidance and supporting materials may be found on the [ETA Web site](#).

The [February 7 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) announcement provides the Office of Management and Budget's desired focus for comments. Comments and questions about the Planning Guidance should be forwarded to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Employment and Training Administration, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Note: [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 14-04](#), issued on January 21, 2005, informed the states of ETA's intent to publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER the proposed revisions to the Planning Guidance and Instructions for Submission of the Strategic Five-Year Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act as well as Workforce Investment Act Unified Planning Guidance.

The TEGL sets forth the anticipated timetable for plan development and submission, provides a summary of planning guidance policy highlights, discusses the national strategic priorities and direction, and addresses both waiver extensions and negotiated levels of performance.

Department of Treasury Publishes Final Guidance on Title IV of the Civil Rights Act

The Department of Treasury has published its final policy guidance on the prohibition in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against national origin discrimination as it affects limited English proficient (LEP) persons. This policy guidance replaces policy guidance published March 7, 2001 and republished on March 7, 2002. On December 22, 2003, the Department published proposed guidance for public comment. No comments were received.

The final policy guidance issued on January 18, 2005 can be viewed at the following Government Printing Office website: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-2156.pdf>

Businesses Form Hiring Partnerships with WorkSource Centers Washington State

A press release dated January 20, 2005 from Washington State indicates a new trend in increased businesses hiring partnerships with Washington's WorkSource system. "The new partnerships seem to signify an unprecedented trend in private business teaming with a career services system largely supported by tax dollars," said Steve Frazier, chair of the Washington Workforce Association, a WorkSource partner. "They also echo a movement seen at the national level, as large companies form similar partnerships with the U.S. Department of Labor."

Company representatives say that teaming with WorkSource enables them to cut recruitment costs, tap into the state's largest pool of job applicants, and get personalized help from employment professionals. Partnership agreements typically outline a long list of services that WorkSource will provide the companies at no cost during large recruitment events. These include advertising events, screening

applicants to make sure they meet minimum requirements, scheduling interviews, supplying dedicated cubicle space, phones and other equipment, maintaining extended hours, and providing a lead staff member to coordinate the event. In return, company representatives agree to help prepare job seekers for the openings by participating in workshops,

Useful Websites

[SkillsUSA](#) is a partnership of students, teachers and industry, working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations, including health occupations. SkillsUSA was formerly known as VICA (the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America)

SkillsUSA prepares America's high performance workers in public career and technical programs. It provides education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work: high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free-enterprise system and involvement in community service.

SkillsUSA programs include local, state and national competitions in which students demonstrate occupational and leadership skills. At the annual national-level SkillsUSA Championships, over 4,000 students compete in 77 occupational and leadership skill areas.

SkillsUSA programs also help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the lab and classroom, and promote community service. The Professional Development Program (PDP) teaches 84 workplace skill competencies in a series of hands-on self-paced lessons (textbook or online format). Student2Student Mentoring gives high school students a chance to

employer panels and similar events at WorkSource centers.

For more information about WorkSource services for businesses, see www.go2worksource.biz.

mentor younger students in the area of career development. CareerSafe is a credentialed ten-hour online training program developed in cooperation with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Successful completion provides students with basic knowledge of safety and an advantage in a competitive job market.

For more information about Skills USA, visit <http://www.skillsusa.org/index2.html> or contact (703) 777-8810 and send an email to anyinfo@skillsusa.org

Geographic Information Services (GIS) Mapping Estimates Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers in Eleven States

The National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc.'s website now contains a link to estimation of Migrant and Seasonal Populations reports for some agricultural states.

Farmworker populations in 11 states were estimated in early 2000/01 using a standardized methodology developed by one researcher, Dr. Alice Larsen. Dr. Larsen's results are available through the Bureau of Primary Health Care's web site, with links to NCFH and others. The 11 states documented include Arkansas, California, Florida, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi and Oklahoma.

Access to the GIS Analysis of the 11 states is available free of charge through this link [NCFH GIS Mapping](#). It is designed to be

very self-explanatory; however NCFH staff is available to walk interested parties

through the presentation via teleconference, upon request.

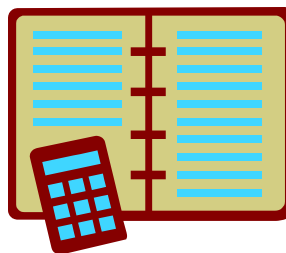
Publications and Other Resources

Useful Websites and Tools that Address Financial Management

The following websites and links may be used as resources to financial management. As a reminder, any organization that receives federal funds must maintain procedures for budget controls, financial reporting, account records, internal controls, allowable costs, and source documentation. The [One-Stop Comprehensive Financial Management Technical Assistance Guide](#) (Part II) amplifies The Workforce Investment Act and accompanying regulations to ensure compliance.

Other resources may be found in websites such as the following:

[Basic Guide to Non-Profit Financial Management](#)
[Center for Non-Profit Management](#)



Economics Literacy; LEAs and Non-Profits Eligible to Apply

The Department of Education has announced a grant competition under the "Improving Literacy through School Libraries Program." Eligible applicants are Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in which at least 20 percent of the students served

Funding Opportunities

Grants.gov Encourages Access to Competitive Grant Opportunities

[Grants.gov](#) allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all Federal grant-making agencies. Grants.gov is THE single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The [US Department of Health and Human Services is proud](#) to be the managing partner for Grants.gov, an initiative that will have an unparalleled impact on the grant community.

by the LEA are from families with incomes below the poverty line based on the most recent satisfactory data available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Department of Education Announces Grant Opportunities for Library-Based Literacy Programs, Financial and

A total of \$19,092,766 is available for award. The Department estimates a total of 100 awards with the range of individual awards, ranging from \$30,000 to \$350,000.

The [January 28 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides full background and application instructions. Proposals are due by March 14.

The Department has also announced a grant opportunity for a program to promote economic and financial literacy among all students in kindergarten through grade 12. The Department is seeking to award the grant to a national nonprofit educational organization that has as its primary purpose the improvement of the quality of student understanding of personal finance and economics.

A total of \$1,478,000 has been identified for budget period one, and \$1,500,000 for budget periods two through five. Education defines the project period as "up to 60 months."

The [January 28 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides the background, summarizes the "absolute priorities" and "invitational priorities," and provides relevant proposal preparation information. Applications are due by March 23.

HHS Announces Fund Availability for Adolescent Family Life Demonstration Project-Non-Profits, FBOs Eligible to Apply; and Assets for Independence Projects

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced the availability of funds for "Adolescent Family Life (AFL) Demonstration Projects." Under its program announcement, HHS intends to make available approximately \$5 million to support an estimated 15-20 new care demonstration grants, up to a maximum of \$375,000 each per year.

Any public or private nonprofit organization or agency is eligible to apply for a grant. However, only those organizations or agencies which demonstrate the capability of providing the proposed services and meet the statutory requirements are considered for grant awards. Faith-based and community-based organizations are encouraged to apply for AFL grants.

While the AFL projects are not primarily a "workforce development" investment, HHS does list "appropriate educational and vocational services" among the core services, and "child care sufficient to enable the adolescent parent to continue education or enter into employment" and "transportation" among the supplemental services.

The text of the announcement, including all application requirements, may be found in the [February 2 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). Application are due by April 4, 2005. Application kits are available online at the [electronic grants management Web site](#).

HHS's Office of Community Services has also announced a funding opportunity under the Assets for Independence Demonstration Program. OCS will accept applications for financial assistance to establish and administer Assets for Independence (AFI) Projects. These projects assist low-income people in becoming economically self-sufficient. They do so by teaching project participants about economic and consumer issues and enabling them to establish matched savings accounts called Individual Development Accounts (IDA) in order to save for a first home, a business or higher education. Applicants may submit applications at any time throughout the year. OCS will review and make funding decisions about applications submitted by any of three due dates: March 15, June 15 and November 1. OCS has identified \$18,000,000 for funding and expects an award of 50 to 60 grants. The ceiling on one individual award is \$1,000,000. Eligible applicants include state governments; county governments; city or township governments; special district governments; independent school districts; state controlled institutions of higher education; Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized); Public Housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments); and Non-profits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher

education. The OCS Asset Building Web site, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/assetbuilding>, includes information about the AFI Program. The February 10 FEDERAL REGISTER, <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-2512.pdf> provides full background on the Assets for Independence initiative, enumerates additional eligibility information and cost match/sharing requirements, and summarizes the content and form for application submission.

U.S. Department of Education Disability Grants

Four grants of approximately \$180,000 will be awarded to state agencies who will provide rehabilitative services to disabled

migrant and seasonal farm workers. The state agency can work alone or with a nonprofit.

Filing Deadline: March 7, 2005
Contact Person: Theresa DeVaughn at (202) 245-7321
CFDA 84.128G. Web site address: www.ed.gov Federal Register, 2/3p5630-3

Also, approximately \$19.5M will be awarded to develop career opportunities for adults with disabilities. Grants will be awarded to employers, nonprofits, unions, state agencies, community rehab programs and tribal organizations who will provide opportunities for the disabled within the state in which the organization is located.

Filing Deadline: March 21, 2005
Contact Person: Kerrie Brown at (202) 245-7281

CFDA 84.234R Web site address: www.ed.gov Federal Register, 2/3p5633-7

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources is a technical assistance update distributed monthly by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Office of National Programs, Division of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Programs. It provides announcements and other public information gathered by ETA Regional Office Weekly Reports or shared through the USDOL website and other public access resources. For older MFWS Resources issued, please link to the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker website at www.doleta.gov/msfw

We welcome your feedback. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you would like to contribute information, post an inquiry, or suggest topics to cover, please contact Gloria Salas-Kos (salas-kos.gloria@dol.gov).