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# U.S. Department of Labor Hispanic Worker Initiative

## Digital Learning Group's Words for Work Project

**Grant Amount:** \$1,573,266

### **Program Description:**

U.S. Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao is awarding \$1,573,266 to Digital Learning Group for their Words for Work program. The program is aimed at assisting unemployed and underemployed Hispanics with limited English proficiency that impedes their access to employment or a living wage. Word for Work is a user-friendly multimedia instruction program that will enhance participant employability by developing occupation-specific English language and related workplace skills training for health care and construction industry employment.

DLG is partnering with Anne Arundel Community College, the Governor's Workforce Investment Board of Maryland, a consortium of faith-based organizations serving the Hispanic community, the Maryland Hospital Association, Schuster Construction, a large Maryland-based contractor, and Anne Arundel Medical Center to develop and implement Words for Work.

The program will provide quick-start training and job placement to 225 Hispanic youth and adults in the Baltimore metropolitan area to maximize their chances for job retention by working closely with local employers in demand occupations. The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration provided \$1.3 million to the program in June 2003. The project funded by the grant will serve as a model for addressing similar employment barriers faced by Asian-Americans, Pacific Islanders and other minority groups around the country.



**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR