

BILL RITTER JR
Governor

DONALD J MARES
Executive Director

ALEXANDRA E. HALL
Director



**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION**

633 17th Street, Suite 600
Denver, Colorado 80202-3660

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: MR. DONALD J. MARES
FROM: *AEH* ALEXANDRA E. HALL
SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ETA WORKFORCE INFORMATION CORE
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES GRANT
DATE: 10/5/2007
CC:

Enclosed you will find a letter from you to the Employment and Training Administration for your signature. The letter simply acknowledges your support of the work done in LMI and emphasizes to ETA that the funds we receive under this grant are a necessity if we are to provide relevant and timely information to the various regions in Colorado.

Please call me at 8-8898 if you have any questions or as soon as the letter is signed so I may send someone to pick it up.

Thank you.

BILL RITTER, JR.
Governor

DONALD J. MARES
Executive Director



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

633 17th Street, Suite 1200
Denver, Colorado 80202-3612

October 5, 2007

Mr. David Lipnicky
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Federal Building
525 S Griffin Street, Room 317
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Lipnicky,

The Department of Labor and Employment is pleased to submit for your review:

1. The State of Colorado's annual summary of work funded by the Employment and Training Administration's PY 2006 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant, and;
2. A letter of support from the Workforce Development Council Chair, Mr. Roger Smith.

As Mr. Smith indicates, the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant affords Colorado the resources to produce valuable, timely information on industries and occupations. This grant is fundamental to our ability to determine which industries and occupations are vital to the economic success of different regions within the state. Local and state planners rely on these reports when planning training and workforce development activities.

The Department of Labor and Employment takes great pride in the work accomplished by LMI during PY 2006 and looks forward to another year of fruitful collaboration with the Workforce Development Council.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Mares
Executive Director
Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

October 5, 2007

Mr. David Lipnicky
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
Federal Building
525 S Griffin Street, Room 317
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Lipnicky,

Please find attached the State of Colorado's annual summary of work funded by the Employment and Training Administration's PY 2006 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

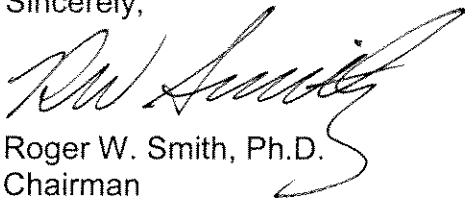
Funds from this grant are vital to the Colorado workforce system's ability to create and make available accurate, timely information on Colorado's state and local economies. During PY 2006, these funds allowed the Workforce Development Council, through the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment's Labor Market Information section, to:

- ✓ Modify and update customer web tools;
- ✓ Analyze and provide information on future demand industries and occupations;
- ✓ Provide training to workforce system staff, and;
- ✓ Create user friendly products to assist Workforce Centers and their customers make critical career decisions.

Additionally, as the Workforce Development Council and Investment Boards developed the statewide and regional strategic plans in April and May, LMI provided vital information and assistance.

While the Workforce Development Council takes great pride in the work accomplished by LMI during PY 2006, we have plans for even greater collaboration and accomplishments in PY 2007.

Sincerely,



Roger W. Smith, Ph.D.
Chairman
Colorado Workforce Development Council

**COLORADO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
PROGRESS REPORT FOR JULY 2006 – JUNE 2007
WORKFORCE INFORMATION CORE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES GRANT**

Statement of Work Deliverables

1) Continue to populate the Workforce Information (formerly ALMIS) Database with state and local data.

a) Accomplishments:

i) Outcomes:

All core tables version 2.3 of the database, as defined by the Workforce Information Database Consortium, are populated as per plan. They are regularly updated with current data. National data and seasonally adjusted Colorado data was added to the CES and LAUS tables. The Schools and Programs tables were updated with new data.

Colorado implemented the Virtual LMI software product in September 2006, which allows display of more workforce information data than was previously displayed by the Navigator web site. A data loading module, which is a companion product to Virtual LMI, is now being used to load, maintain and audit data in the Workforce Information Database.

All occupational license files, including the new LICXOCC, have been populated. They are in ALMIS 2.3 format. These files were sent to and approved by the National Crosswalk Center in February 2006.

ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** All planned milestones met.

iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$121,312; PY06=\$40,438

b) Customer satisfaction assessment: N/A

c) Recommendations for improvements: Colorado LMI will begin populating version 2.4 of the Workforce Information Database in PY 07.

2) **Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.**

Long-Term Industry and Occupational Projections:

a) **Accomplishments:**

- i) **Outcomes:** Colorado analysts completed the 2005 - 2015 statewide and sub-state industry and occupational projections using the NAICS industry employment series per plan.
- ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** Projections were completed on time. Per agreement with the Workforce Development Council, this is the first year of producing "off-cycle" long-term projections.
- iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$66,603; PY06=\$22,200

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:** N/A

c) **Recommendations for improvements:** Colorado will focus on industry research and evaluation of state and local variables to include in the analysis of long-term projections and related products.

Short-Term Industry and Occupation Projections:

a) **Accomplishments:**

- i) **Outcomes:** Colorado analysts completed the 2006 – 2008 statewide and sub-state industry and occupational projections using the NAICS industry employment series per plan.
- ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** Projections were completed on time.
- iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$66,603; PY06=\$22,200

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:** N/A

c) **Recommendations for improvements:** Colorado will leverage LMI expertise in BLS programs to evaluate the feasibility of extending starting point of short-term industry and occupational projections (2008-2010 rather than 2007-2009).

3) **Publish an annual economic analysis report for the governor and the SWIB.**

a) **Accomplishments:**

i) **Outcomes:**

The State of Colorado's Talent Development: Competing in the 21st Century was published. This report provides a detailed state economic analysis of talent development in Colorado as "the single most critical driver in determining our future global competitiveness and standard of living."

In addition to traditional information sources, the following groups provided information for this annual report: Colorado Business Outlook 2007, Denver Metro EDC cluster studies, Information Technology Association of America, and Corporation for a Skilled Workforce.

ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** The publication of this report conforms to the deliverables schedule.

iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY06=\$5,000

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:** A primary customer of this report is the Governor of Colorado and legislature. The report provides information important to the goals in The Colorado Promise, the Governor's plan for moving Colorado forward.

Other customers are represented on the Steering Committee that facilitated this report's development, including Colorado Nanotechnology Alliance, Castle Rock Economic Development Council, and CH2M HILL.

c) **Recommendations for improvements:**
Develop distribution plan.

4) Post products, information and reports on the Internet.

a) **Accomplishments:**

- i) **Outcomes:** Colorado continued implementation of Geographic Solutions Virtual LMI software during the program year. The conversion of the Colorado LMI web site is complete. LMI Gateway is fully operational.

All industry and occupation program data (QCEW, CES, LAUS, OES,LED, Projections) were updated on the site per the frequency required for the individual programs (i.e. monthly, quarterly, annually).

Special project reports and presentations by LMI staff were posted on the site. Newly added information was highlighted as "NEW" to improve user recognition.

Information and data prepared to meet the specific needs of the workforce system, including partners, researchers and other agencies were provided throughout the year utilizing a variety of media forms (primarily CDs, DVDs, electronic files and hard copy). Confidentiality agreements were executed as appropriate prior to the release of confidential information for use in statistical analyses.

- ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** All milestones were met throughout the year.
- iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$131,071; PY06=\$36,831; Other State Funding=\$82,098

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:** N/A

- c) **Recommendations for improvements:** Products developed by the Training and Outreach group in response to needs of the workforce development system staff can also be made available via the site.

5) **Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards.**

a) **Accomplishments:**

i) **Outcomes:**

Consultation with various local workforce boards and workforce centers has provided fertile ground for the development of two new labor market information products that facilitate workforce development from both strategic and operational, business and job seeker perspectives.

Consultation with the Colorado Workforce Development Council, our SWIB, has facilitated the development of two additional new products currently being prepared for release.

Printing of products is funded and managed through a partnership among the Colorado Workforce Development Council, Workforce Programs, and Labor Market Information. Informational enquiries from LWIB members are increasing.

ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$31,457; PY06=\$8,839; Other State Funding=\$19,704

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:**

The SWIB and LWIBs are presented with existing products and asked to review prototype products not yet in print. Feedback is carefully considered and products have changed significantly.

Several needs assessment focus groups of LWIB members were conducted this year.

Increasingly local data has been requested and is provided at the county level on an increasing basis. These requests have been especially important to rural areas of Colorado as well as any areas outside of MSAs.

c) **Recommendations for improvements:**

Continued assessment and consultation with LWIB and SWIB members to maintain strong customer focus.

6) **Conduct special studies and economic analyses.**

a) **Accomplishments:**

i) **Outcomes:**

Special studies, economic analyses, and presentations have been developed to support various statewide, local, and sub-state regions with information necessary for strategic planning. Studies, analyses, and presentations include the follow subjects and groups:

Fast Facts: Arapahoe and Douglas Counties	WIB
Delta County and Montrose County Projections	EDC
Human Resource Managers	Larimer/Weld Prof. Org.
Jefferson County Business Leaders	Chamber of Commerce
Trends and Forecasts for South Metro Denver	Chamber of Commerce
Colorado's Health Care Labor Market	Governor's Task Force

ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:** All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:** PY05=\$41,943; PY06=\$11,786; Other State Funding=\$26,271

b) **Customer satisfaction assessment:** All presentations and support materials are built in direct consultation with representatives from the customer organization making the request.

c) **Recommendations for improvements:**

As health care and other benefits become increasingly expensive and concerns about the aging of our workforce grow, employers request information about trends across the state (i.e. what are employers paying toward these benefits and what kinds of benefits are being included in employee compensation packages.) An area for special study and analyses in this area would benefit a number of customer groups.

Spending Summary

Total PY05=\$458,989

Total PY06=\$147,294

Total Other State Funding=\$128,073