



**Talent Driving Prosperity** 

July 11-13, 2006 · Anaheim, CA

# Focusing on Customer Choice: Research on Account Mechanisms











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#### What are LiLAs?

 Lifelong Learning Accounts (LiLAs) are employer-matched individual investment accounts to finance lifelong learning, similar to 401(k)s but for education and training.

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- •The vision is for any individual worker to contribute to these accounts and be matched by their employer and, in some cases, third parties.
- •LiLAs leverage employer and employee co-investment in education and training to help close the funding gap for adult workers.











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## **Key Characteristics of LiLA**

Sponsored by Employer

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- Employer-MatchedContributions
- Portable (Employee-Owned)
- Career & Education Advising
- Broad Use of Funds for Careerrelated Education and Training













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# Demonstration Sites in U.S. It's WORKING!

- Chicago, IL 125 employees of the restaurant and foodservice industry
- Northeast Indiana 75 manufacturing employees and 75 public sector employees
- San Francisco 75 employees of the allied health care industry
- Maine FIRST Statewide Initiative (strong partnership)

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### **Preliminary Lessons**

- ✓ Appeals to wide range of employers
- ✓ Employers report modest improvement in productivity, morale and retention in preliminary findings
- ✓ Participants use LiLAs to advance and/or retool
- √97% of participants report that they
  found their advisor to be somewhat or
  very helpful.
- ✓ Active participant savings rate average about \$24 per month
- √ Sectors matter











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# **LiLA Policy Initiative**

- Federal
  - Federal Tax Demonstration
  - National Innovation Act
- State
  - State-based pilot (ME)
  - State planning research (IL)
  - Legislative initiatives
    - State tax incentives (OK)
    - State matching pilot (IL and IN)
  - WIRED (Coastal Maine and Kansas City regions)









# How to Bring LiLAs to Your State

Join the Maine DOL and CAEL tomorrow at 9 a.m. for the "Leveraging Funds from Both the Employer and Employee: Lifelong Learning Accounts for Education and Training" Learning Lab











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### **Contact Information**

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