

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources

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Upcoming Events

- **April 6-9, 2005** [2005 Association of Job Search Trainers Annual Conference](#). "PEOPLE OF PURPOSE: Training America's Workforce Providers. Orlando, FL
- **April 9-12** [85th AACC Annual Convention](#), Bridging Access to Success; Hynes Convention Center. Boston, MA
- **April 11-14** [Heartland Professional Development Symposium](#)
Adam's Mark Hotel – St. Louis, MO
- **April 20-22** [Spring Practicum](#) - Charting The Course: *Navigating New Directions in Workforce Development*, Tarrytown, New York
- **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.

Department Initiatives

TEN 17-04: ETA Advises Workforce System of National Mystery Shopping Project

[Training and Employment Notice 17-04](#) informs the workforce investment system of a national Mystery Shopping project.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is charged with providing executive leadership for the nation's public workforce investment system, including the nationwide system of One-Stop Career Centers. To this end, ETA is launching a national Mystery Shopping effort to assist the system in becoming demand-driven.

States are requested to review and share this Training and Employment Notice with Local Workforce Investment Boards and the One-Stop Career Centers, and other state

and local workforce partners, as appropriate.

The Workforce Investment Act in Eight States: Final Report Now Available

The Employment and Training Administration's [Library Web page](#) contains the agency's [Occasional Papers](#). The latest addition to this catalogue is **The Workforce Investment Act in Eight States**. The synopsis: This report concludes a two-year study of workforce service delivery in eight states, sixteen local areas, and more than thirty local One-Stop Career Centers operating under the auspices of the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 (Public Law 105-220). The purpose of this

study is to provide useful information for both national policymakers in the Executive Branch and Congress for WIA and related reauthorizations (e.g., Perkins, TANF) and for program administrators and policy researchers. The research has been designed to enhance understanding of the way workforce service delivery has been operating across the country. Findings are organized according to five major topics which the study addressed: (1) leadership, including the role of employers and the private sector; (2) system administration and funding; (3) organization and operation of One-Stop Career Centers; (4) service orientation and mix; and (5) the use of market mechanisms such as the Eligible Training Provider (ETP) list, performance standards, and Individual Training Accounts (ITAs).

[Final Report](#) [Executive Summary](#)

TEGL 16-04: ETA Issues Guidance on Self-Employment and Entrepreneurial Training under the Workforce Investment Act

The Employment and Training Administration has released [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 16-04 -- Self-Employment Training for Workforce Investment Act Clients](#). This TEGL encourages the workforce investment system to make entrepreneurial training opportunities available for people interested in self-employment under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

States and State Workforce Agencies are requested to advocate that local boards consider entrepreneurial programs for WIA customers as part of their menu of services and to explore the appropriate partnerships to support these training programs. States are also encouraged to include entrepreneurial training providers on their eligible training provider lists.

President's Strengthening America's Communities Initiative: Nominations Sought for Advisory Committee

On February 9, 2005, the President's Domestic Policy Council requested the Secretary of Commerce to form the **Strengthening America's Communities Advisory Committee**. The objectives and duties of the Committee will be to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary, and to develop a comprehensive written report of policy parameters to assist in implementing the [President's Strengthening America's Communities Initiative](#), including advising on its legislation, regulations and other guidance. The Committee's report will encompass all aspects of the envisioned Initiative, including policy findings and declarations, organizational structure, eligibility, program delivery, monitoring and performance measures. The Committee is expected to deliver its report to the Secretary by May 31, 2005, although this time frame may change. Thereafter, the Committee may be asked to advise the Secretary of Commerce on additional matters relating to the Initiative.

The Secretary of Commerce is seeking nominations for persons to serve on the Committee. The Committee is intended to have a balanced membership from diverse backgrounds and geographical regions, including the private sector, state, local and tribal government officials, community-based organizations, academia and the research community. Nominees should possess an extensive knowledge of, and background in, the fields of rural or urban economic, social and community development. Nominees should also possess economic, social and community development policy experience, leadership and organizational skills.

Nominations must be received by the Department of Commerce at the address listed below no later than 4 p.m. on March 11, 2005. Nominations may be submitted by postal mail, facsimile, or e-mail.

- Nominations by postal mail to David A. Sampson, Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce, Room 7800, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.
- Nominations may be submitted via facsimile to (202) 273-4723; all facsimiles should be addressed to the attention of Assistant Secretary for Economic Development David A. Sampson.
- E-mail submissions must be addressed to saci@eda.doc.gov and should include all nomination materials (including attachments) in a single transmission.

The Department of Commerce strongly encourages applicants to submit nominations by facsimile or e-mail. Nominations sent by regular mail may be substantially delayed in delivery, since all regular mail sent to the Department is subject to extensive security screening.

The [March 1 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides additional background on the initiative, nomination process, objectives and duties of the Committee membership, and administrative procedures.



TEGL 18-04: ETA Provides Update on Common Measures, Program Performance Reports, EMILE, and OMB Clearance of Revised Reporting Requirements

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has issued [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 18-04](#). This TEGL:

- Informs states of ETA's intent to implement common measures by modifying existing reporting requirements for Workforce Investment Act, Employment Service and Veterans Employment and Training Service (effective July 1, 2005) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (effective October 1, 2005).
- Informs states of ETA's intent to publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER proposed revisions to the performance reports for WIA, ES, VETS and TAA programs to encompass data necessary to report outcomes against the common measures.
- Provides advance information that ETA is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) emergency clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act for the revised reporting requirements. The FEDERAL REGISTER Notice will include a three week opportunity for public comment. Simultaneous to publishing the request for emergency clearance, ETA will also provide a request for standard clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act, which will include an initial 60-day opportunity for public comment.
- Provides an update on the status of the ETA Management Information and Longitudinal Evaluation (EMILE) system, as announced in the [July 16, 2004 FEDERAL REGISTER](#)

Regional Announcements

REGION II

FreightCar America to Build Rail Cars in Roanoke, VA: FreightCar America, Inc. has leased a portion of Norfolk Southern Corporation's dormant railroad production facility in Roanoke, VA. The company will invest \$5.5 million and create 400 new jobs there over the next two and a half years.

REGION III

Call Center Will Open in Pikeville, Kentucky Affiliated Computer Services Inc. will open a customer call center in Pikeville, Kentucky, this month, creating nearly 300 jobs.

Plastics Plant Brings 100 Jobs to Upstate (South Carolina) HI-tech Molding and Tooling, a plastic injection company, has moved its operations to the Upstate from Georgia, creating 100 jobs. It makes products such as the strips in some point-of-sale credit card readers.

Maverick Tube Corporation Offers 200 Jobs Maverick Tube Corporation will open in June 2005, when it completes its \$63 million steel conduit plant in the Jefferson Riverport International complex and will be hiring for 200 jobs in Louisville.

Spartanburg County Plant to Create 120 Jobs Benteler Automotive Corporation, an automotive parts manufacturer, plans to build a plant worth at least \$20 million in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, that will create about 120 jobs. The plant will manufacture chassis for BMW's next-generation X5 sports utility vehicle to be made at its Greer plant. Construction is expected to begin next month and production is expected to begin in 2006.

REGION IV

Tyson Foods to Bring 1600 Jobs to Texas Governor Rick Perry announced on January 31, 2005 that Tyson Foods will bring 1,600 jobs to Texas during the next

three years as part of a deal that includes a \$7 million grant from the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF). The TEF is a state fund used to provide final incentives to employers who are considering relocation to Texas. Tyson will establish its largest case-ready meat packing plant in the nation in Sherman, Texas.

Texas State Technical College Receives Funds for Advanced Manufacturing and Integrated Technology Training On February 3, 2005, Governor Perry announced the award of \$963,282 in discretionary and other federal funds to Texas State Technical College (TSTC) in Harlingen so that it can expand training for advanced manufacturing workers. Governor Perry announced in December that an additional \$482,000 in discretionary funds from the Workforce Investment Act will be provided to TSTC in Harlingen to develop an advanced manufacturing and integrated systems technology training and employment program. The grant will allow TSTC to train workers for state-of-the-art manufacturing jobs.

Offshore Platform Manufacturing Company to Create 150 New Jobs in Texas On Feb. 7, 2005, Governor Perry announced that Keppel AmFELS, a global leader in offshore platform manufacturing, will create 150 new jobs in Brownsville thanks to a \$350,000 job training grant from the Skills Development Fund. The funds will allow the University of Texas at Brownsville to develop a comprehensive training program for these new workers and 300 existing employees.

KraftMaid Cabinetry, Inc. to employ 1300 people in Utah The Department of Workforces (DWS) indicates that KraftMaid Cabinetry Inc. will build a \$100 million facility in West Jordan (just south of Salt Lake City) that will open next year and employ 1,300 people. The Middlefield, Ohio, company, one of the nation's largest manufacturers of custom cabinets, will receive a \$2.2 million grant from the Industrial Assistance Fund (IAF) to build a new facility on 80 acres. The IAF, under the

Department of Economic Development, is a job-creation incentive fund available to companies seeking relocation to the State of Utah, as well as to existing Utah companies seeking to expand operations within the state.

Airline Company to Hire 346 New Employees in Salt Lake City Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA) will be enlarging its service to help Delta Air Lines expand service in Salt Lake City by flying direct to many areas previously not serviced through Salt Lake City. The entry of ASA is a coup for Salt Lake City, since the carrier's arrival will bring 346 new employees. ASA has been in contact with the Department of Workforce Services, and discussions are underway.

Utah Department of Workforce Services Ranks Jobs Based on Employment and Outlook Trends The Department of Workforce Services (DWS) "Utah Job Trends" indicates that DWS has just introduced a new way to rank jobs based on employment outlook and wages. Jobs are rated by stars. A five-star job is one with the strongest employment outlook and with high wages. The employment outlook rating is based 85 percent on the number of annual openings projected for the specific occupation and 15 percent on the rate of new employment growth in that job. For more information, please see Utah DWS website: <http://jobs.utah.gov/wi> and click on "Publications" and select from the drop-down menu.

Other Announcements

Messages from WorkforceUSA.net

The February newsletter has been posted to WorkforceUSA.net. This issue has information about resources on enhancing WIA performance outcomes, the impact of training in dislocated worker and union based projects, support for entrepreneurs, youth employment in a changing economy, the effectiveness of One-Stop Career Center services to persons with disabilities, and upcoming workshops and job openings. The newsletter can be found in the Users' Resources of WorkforceUSA.net and at this link

<http://www.workforceusa.net/uploads/Newsletter13-Feb2005.pdf>

The March WorkforceUSA.net newsletter has been posted to the site. This issue features resources on the following topics: innovative state workforce development and welfare policies, employer educational benefits, estimated impacts of the President's proposed budget on workforce development, prior learning portfolio development, working adults and community colleges, entrepreneurial training opportunities and data, corporate and business-civic organizational involvement in communities, and Boston's SkillWorks initiative. It also features links to opportunities for funding, a sector-based academy, and a two-day practicum on new directions in workforce development. The newsletter can be found in the User Resources section of

www.workforceusa.net or at <http://www.workforceusa.net/uploads/14NewsletterMarch2005.pdf>



Publications and Other Resources

Spanish-Language Information for Youth Violence Prevention

The "En Español" section of the SafeYouth Web site lists a growing collection of youth violence prevention resources in Spanish. In addition to youth violence, our collection covers related topics such as child development, guidance for parents and caregivers, school, media violence, mental health, physical abuse, and substance abuse. Materials are grouped by subject or target audience, and listed in both Spanish and English, to provide access for both Spanish-speaking Web site visitors and English speakers seeking Spanish-language resources. Wherever possible, a link to the English version is provided, as well as an English database abstract summarizing the document. Go to:

<http://www.safeyouth.org/scripts/espanol/index.asp>

Preventing Discrimination against Teenage Workers

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has initiated an effort entitled "Youth@Work" to increase the public awareness about federal anti-discrimination laws as they relate to teens in the workplace. The website affiliated with this initiative is at <http://youth.eeoc.gov> and it contains information which explains the different types of job discrimination that young workers may encounter and suggests strategies they can use to prevent, and if necessary, respond to such discrimination.

Center for Labor Market Studies and Jobs for America's Graduates Issue Two Reports: The Paradox of Teen Joblessness in an Expanding Labor Market

Despite the overall gains in employment for the nation's workers over the past year, the

nation's teens (16-19) had been far more adversely affected by the national recession of 2001 and the largely jobless recovery of 2002-2003 than any other age group in the nation. The continued decline in employment rates for the nation's teens despite renewed job growth for the nation as a whole over the past year remains somewhat of a puzzle. This research paper is designed to track employment rates for the nation's teens over both the past few years and decades to place the findings for the past few years in historical perspective. Read the full report:

http://www.nyec.org/Teen_Employment_jan_2005.pdf.

The Age Twist in Employment Rates in the U.S., 2000 – 2004: The Steep Tilt against Young Workers in the Nation's Labor Markets

Over the past year the number of workers has increased but the average number of teen workers fell slightly below its 2003 level, representing the fourth consecutive year of job losses among the nation's teens. No other age subgroup in the U.S. has been as adversely affected by changing national labor market conditions over the past four years as teens. This research paper is designed to describe the changing age patterns of employment rates in the U.S. over the 2000 – 2004 period and to assess the historical uniqueness and causes of this substantial "age twist" in employment rates. http://www.nyec.org/Employment_Rates_of_young_workers.pdf.

Youth Involvement in Systems of Care: A Guide to Empowerment

This guide is designed to provide a resource to youth, youth coordinators, family members, professionals, and other adults working with young people. It is a starting point for understanding youth involvement and engagement in order to develop and fully integrate a youth-directed movement

within local systems of care. This guide will serve in building the foundation and framework for the Youth Movement in order to enhance opportunities for young people and to utilize their expertise in system

change. Download the guide here: <http://www.tapartnership.org/youth/youthguide.asp>.

Funding Opportunities

Funding for Organizations That Serve and Empower Disadvantaged Populations

The Public Welfare Foundation supports organizations that address human needs in disadvantaged communities, with strong emphasis on organizations that include service, advocacy and empowerment in their approach. 2005 funding priorities include community development, criminal justice, health, and youth. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply throughout the year. For more information, please visit: <http://www.publicwelfare.org/index.asp>.

Department of Education Announces Funding Opportunity under Women's Educational Equity Act; Invitational Priority Includes Support for Low-Income Young Women Entering into Science and Technology Careers

Under the Women's Educational Equity Act Program (WEEA), the Department of Education has announced a FY 2005 "invitational priority" for projects designed to increase the number of low-income women and girls pursuing and excelling in advanced courses in mathematics or science (including computer science), and entering

highly skilled careers in which they have been underrepresented.

The purpose of the WEEA program is: (a) To promote gender equity in education in the United States; (b) to provide financial assistance to enable educational agencies and institutions to meet the requirements of title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and (c) to promote equity in education for women and girls who suffer from multiple forms of discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin, limited English proficiency, disability, or age.

- Deadline for Notice of Intent To Apply: April 1, 2005.
- Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 18, 2005.
- Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 15, 2005.
- Estimated Available Funds: \$2,519,942.
- Estimated Range of Awards: \$125,000-\$250,000 and average Size: \$175,000.
- Maximum Award: \$250,000 for a single budget period of 12 months.
- Estimated Number of Awards: 14-15.

Eligible applicants include public agencies; private nonprofit agencies; organizations, including community- and faith-based organizations; institutions; student groups; community groups; and individuals.

The [March 2 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides the full solicitation for grant application announcement.

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 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.

We welcome your input. 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).