

# 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  
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<http://wdsc.doleta.gov/msfw>

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## Upcoming Events

- March 25 Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker/Workforce Investment Board Dialogue. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Link to: [www.nawb.org](http://www.nawb.org)
- March 30 Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker/Workforce Investment Board Dialogue. Sacramento, California
- April 13-16 MAFO National Farmworker Conference. San Antonio, Texas. Link to: [www.mafofarmworker.com](http://www.mafofarmworker.com)
- May 12-14 Building Workforce Partnerships (Labor Representative Training) San Diego, California. Link to: [www.workingforamerica.org](http://www.workingforamerica.org).
- May 19-21 Building Workforce Partnerships (Labor Representative Training) New York, New York.
- May 23-26 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. National Association of Workforce Development Professionals. Portland, Oregon. Link to: [www.nawdp.org](http://www.nawdp.org)
- July 19- 21 Workforce Innovations 2004. San Antonio, Texas [www.workforceinnovations.org](http://www.workforceinnovations.org)
- August 12-15 "Empowering the Nonprofit Sector." 2004 Alliance Annual Conference. Washington, D.C. [www.allianceonline.org/annual\\_conference](http://www.allianceonline.org/annual_conference)

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

***TEGL 18-03: WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT AND WELFARE-TO-WORK TAX CREDIT PROGRAM PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR PERIOD OF AUTHORIZATION LAPSE***

[Training and Employment Guidance Letter 18-03](#) provides procedural

guidance to State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) on processing of requests for certification under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit (WtWTC) after these tax credits expired on December 31, 2003.

This guidance covers the period January 1 - September 30, 2004. If the WOTC and WtWTC program has not been reauthorized by September 30, 2004, additional guidance will be issued.

### ***BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTIC'S JOB OUTLOOK FOR 2012***

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) issued its long-term outlook on employment in the U.S. It reported that the economy will have added another 21.3 million people to payrolls by 2012. Nine of the 10 fastest growing occupations will be in the high-growth health care or technology (IT) fields. Moreover, six of the 10 jobs with the fastest growth rates will call for either an associate or bachelor's degree. In order to fill jobs that will be in high demand, like those in nursing or IT, the importance of training at community colleges will only grow. To learn more, the BLS report can be viewed or downloaded at the following location:

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecopro.nr0.htm>

## ***Regional Announcements***

### ***REGION I***

- **New England Cast** in Stone Manufacturing in Springfield, Vermont plans to hire 85 new employees by late spring 2004. The Company was attracted to Springfield's location near the aggregate needed for their products and the manufacturing workforce in the area. The workforce should expand to about 100 by the end of 2004. Leadership at the company stated that they would be willing to train employees for the openings if no otherwise qualified people can be found.

### ***REGION III***

- **Dollar General Corp.** announced that it will bring a \$65 million regional distribution center and more than 500 new jobs to Union County, South Carolina.
- Officials in New Bern, North Carolina celebrated the completion of a factory expansion that is expected to bring about 1,300 new jobs to the area. **BSH Home Appliance**, part of the Bosch and Siemens Home Appliances joint venture based in Munich, Germany, has invested \$200 million in a 400,000 square-foot expansion at its New

Bern facility, where it has been manufacturing dishwashers and some cooking appliances since 1997. The company, the third-largest manufacturer of household appliances worldwide, with \$7 billion in annual revenue, announced the expansion in 2001. BSH employs 750 people in New Bern, 300 of which were hired last year. Depending on demand for its products, it plans a total of 1,300 workers by 2006.

- **AlphaVax** has rented 17,700 square feet about a five-minute drive from its Research Triangle Park facilities in North Carolina and plans to begin using the space within about a year to make small batches of medical vaccines for clinical trials. As part of the expansion, AlphaVax plans to increase its workforce from 51 to about 75 by the end of the year, creating jobs that require bachelors' and master's degrees and experience in the pharmaceutical industry. Employment is projected to double to 100 over the next two years.
- **Frito-Lay** is spending \$4 million to expand its Fayetteville, Tennessee, chip factory, adding 40 jobs in the process. The expansion is in response to increased demand for the plant's products. The 400-employee plant produces Lay's and Ruffles brand potato chips, Fritos corn chips, Doritos tortilla chips and Cheetos cheese snacks. Hiring will be spread over a year, but the first jobs will be filled in the next few weeks.
- Work on a new 330,000-square-foot **Federal Express** Ground hub in Olive Branch, Mississippi will begin next month and take about a year to complete. Eventually, the north Mississippi center is expected to employ up to 600 people full and part time.
- An East Tennessee clothing company will hire 100 people and reopen a garment factory in Giles County that has been idle since work moved to Mexico several years ago. **Short Bark Industries**, a Tellico Plains company that makes military style uniforms and seat covers for trucks and buses, is expanding into the mid-state. The company, which employs 250 in Monroe County, will create another 100 jobs in Giles County.

## **REGION V**

- *Akron Beacon Journal* reported **Alliance Castings**, the foundry where couplers, yokes and center plates for railroad cars were first made more than a century ago, is once again working for the rail industry. Ohio Gov. Bob Taft will visit the site of the former American Steel Foundries, which closed its 26-acre complex nearly two years ago, to celebrate the opening of Alliance Castings. Current employment stands at about 240, which includes 32 administrative positions. As

production goes into full swing, another 160 or so workers will be added.

## ***Other Announcements***

### ***THE UNITED WE RIDE INITIATIVE***

On February 24, 2004 President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 13330 to enhance access to transportation to improve mobility, employment opportunities, and access to community services for persons who are transportation-disadvantaged. There are 62 federal programs that fund transportation services and spend a significant amount of money to provide assistance. The key to using these services more efficiently is coordination. The U.S. Departments of Transportation, Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services, are launching a new five-part initiative called "United We Ride" to break down the barriers between programs and set the stage for local partnerships. The "United We Ride" initiative includes:

- National Leadership Forum on Human Service Transportation Coordination. This Forum will bring together Governor-appointed senior leadership teams. It aims to raise the visibility of the issue among state leaders and secure commitments to action. The Forum will also provide technical assistance, and it will recognize those states that have already taken significant steps to improve human service transportation services.
- State Leadership Awards. These awards will recognize a select number of states that are leading the way in building and implementing infrastructures, policies and programs that facilitate coordination and that have accomplished significant progress in human service transportation coordination.
- A Framework for Action. Created by a panel of experts from around the country that convened in August 2003, this publication is a self-assessment tool that states and communities can use to identify areas of success and highlight the actions still needed to improve the coordination of human service transportation. It is available on the Web at: <http://www.fta.dot.gov/CCAM/framework.html>
- State Coordination Grants. States participating in the United We Ride National Leadership Forum will be eligible to submit an application for State Coordination Grants to address gaps and needs related to human service transportation in their geographic regions.
- Help Along the Way. This technical assistance program will build on the work of the Community Transportation Assistance Program (CTAP), the Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP), Easter Seals Project ACTION and other stakeholders to provide hands-on assistance to

states and communities in the development and delivery of coordinated human service transportation programs.

More information on "United We Ride" is available on the Web site of the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) at:  
[www.fta.dot.gov/CCAM/United We Ride.html#United Read More](http://www.fta.dot.gov/CCAM/United_We_Ride.html#United_Read_More)

### ***CALIFORNIA FARMWORKER PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING AND EVALUATION – PRESOLICITATION NOTICE***

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) intends to award a sole source fixed price purchase order to Proteus, Inc. of Visalia, CA for Worker Protection Standard pesticide safety training and evaluation of 2,000 agricultural workers and their families in the Central Valley of California during the growing season from April – September 2004. The data provided to the Agency about the training and evaluation of farmworkers in this key agricultural area will help provide the EPA with information needed to improve the implementation of the Worker Protection Standard. Because their unique position in this agricultural area it is believed Proteus is the only organization that could complete this training and evaluation in a timely manner without excess costs to the Government. The estimated value of this procurement is approximately \$65,000.00. The Contracting Officer, Robert Minjack, for this notice can be reached at (202) 564-4794 or [minjack.robert@epa.gov](mailto:minjack.robert@epa.gov). Additional information about this notice be found at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/spg/EPA/OAM/HQ/RFQ-DC-04-00106/listing.html>

### ***CENSUS ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO MEET IN MAY***

The Census Advisory Committees on the African American Population, the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations, the Asian Population, the Hispanic Population, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Populations are comprised of nine members each. The Committees provide an organized and continuing channel of communication between the representative race and ethnic populations and the Census Bureau. The Committee provides an outside-user perspective about how research and design plans for the 2010 reengineered decennial census, the American Community Survey, and other related programs realize goals and satisfy needs associated with these communities. They also assist the Census Bureau on ways that census data can best be disseminated to diverse race and ethnic populations and other users.

The Census Bureau has announced that a joint meeting -- followed by separate and concurrently held meetings of the Census Advisory Committees (CACs) on the African American Population, the American

Indian and Alaska Native Populations, the Asian Population, the Hispanic Population, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Populations – will be held on May 5-7. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202. It is open to the public.

For additional information, contact Jeri Green, Committee Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3627, Federal Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 763-2070, TTY (301) 457-2540.

### ***MIGRANT CHILD COUNT REPORT: A FEDERAL REGISTER INVITATION FOR COMMENT***

The Migrant Child Count Report is published annually by Office of Elementary and Secondary Education under the ESEA Title I, Part C (Education of Migratory Children). The report collects information on the numbers of identified eligible migratory children in the States, for use in allocating State Migrant Education Program formula grant funds and for reporting on the size of the migrant child population to Congress and the public. Requests for copies of the submission for OMB review; comment request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2438. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050; Regional Office Building 3; Washington, DC 20202-4651; or to the e-mail address [vivan.reese@ed.gov](mailto:vivan.reese@ed.gov). Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address [OCIO\\_RIMG@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Melanie Kadlic, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the Internet address [Melanie\\_Kadlic@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Melanie_Kadlic@omb.eop.gov).

Supplementary Information: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose

of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 9, 2004.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her e-mail address [Kathy.Axt@ed.gov](mailto:Kathy.Axt@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

## ***Useful Websites***

### ***WorkforceUSA.Net***

WorkforceUSA.net is dedicated to the work of workforce development. It is designed to meet the day-to-day needs of workforce development practitioners in community-based organizations, community colleges, private firms, employer associations, unions, economic development organizations, One-Stop Career Centers, Workforce Investment Boards and elsewhere. Representing collaboration among workforce development organizations and professionals, workforceUSA.net is intended as a site of shared learning.

There are now over 2,100 resources which can be found on the site. The new resources are distributed across functions, but the largest recent increases have been in Career Development, Program Design and Program Management. Log on to:

[www.workforceusa.net/home/index.cfm](http://www.workforceusa.net/home/index.cfm)

### ***WORKFORCE TOOLS OF THE TRADE***

Did you know that the Workforce Tools of the Trade ([www.workforcetools.org/](http://www.workforcetools.org/)) provides resources for staff development? It includes information and publications, examples from the field, links to all the workforce system-related websites across America; and professional

development opportunities. A great bookmark to a site to “helping workforce professionals excel!”

## ***Publications and Other Resources***

### ***EDUCATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FOR VULNERABLE YOUTH: STUDENT NEEDS, PROGRAM TYPE, AND RESEARCH DIRECTIONS.***

This report, by Laudan Y. Aaron and Janine M. Zweig examines the need for alternative education for youth in traditional public schools who are being left behind by high stakes assessments and high academic standards. A summary of findings from a roundtable on directions for future research on alternative education is included. Visit:  
[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/410898\\_vulnerable\\_youth.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/410898_vulnerable_youth.pdf).

### ***MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY: ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR CAREER SUCCESS IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY.***

This brief provides a quick and easy checklist for youth service practitioners to share with students as they explore careers of interest to them. The brief also highlights the importance of math, science, and technology course work in preparing young adults for top growing careers. To access the brief visit:  
[http://www.ncwdyouth.info/assets/info\\_briefs/infobrief\\_issue7.pdf](http://www.ncwdyouth.info/assets/info_briefs/infobrief_issue7.pdf).

## ***Funding Opportunities***

### ***DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES FY 2004 TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM***

The Commerce Department has announced that approximately \$12.9 million is available for grants through the Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) for Fiscal Year 2004. The [Application Kit for Fiscal Year 2004](#) includes the announcement and guidelines, provides information on the program, rules for applying, suggestions for preparing an application, and the standard forms needed for the application. The deadline for applications is April 27, 2004.

### ***\$45 MILLION IN FY 2004 FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH***



## ***TREASURY'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND***

On February 23, 2004, the Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund posted on its website the Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for its flagship community and economic development finance program. The NOFA signals the beginning of fiscal year 2004 funding round for the Financial Assistance Component of the CDFI Program. Approximately \$45 million is available for award this round. The NOFA was published in the Federal Register by Friday, February 27, 2004, and can be downloaded through: [http://www.cdfifund.gov/docs/FA/2004/FA\\_NOFA04.pdf](http://www.cdfifund.gov/docs/FA/2004/FA_NOFA04.pdf)

Through the CDFI Program, the CDFI Fund invests in and supports community-based organizations, known as community development financial institutions – or CDFIs, that provide financing and related services to communities and populations that lack access to credit, capital and financial services. The CDFI Fund has certified over 650 CDFIs that operate in all 50 states.

**Changes** - Important changes made this round include: a sub-component aimed at small and emerging CDFIs; inclusion of criteria enabling rural areas to be eligible due to county population loss and net out-migration; launching a new and significantly improved version of the Fund's electronic helpdesk known as the CDFI Information and Mapping System or CIMS; and a much more user-friendly version of our electronic application. The CDFI Fund expects the electronic application to be available March 5, 2004. The application deadline is April 28, 2004.

**To Learn More** - Those interested in learning more about this program are invited to attend a CDFI Fund sponsored Information Session. CDFI Fund staff will conduct Information Sessions in Chicago, IL (March 8<sup>th</sup>), Dallas, TX (March 9<sup>th</sup>), Los Angeles, CA (March 8<sup>th</sup>) and Washington, DC (March 10<sup>th</sup>). In addition, on March 17<sup>th</sup> the CDFI Fund will broadcast an interactive video teleconference live from Washington, DC. This broadcast will be aired through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's TV Network and will be beamed by satellite to 81 local HUD Field Offices around the nation or may be viewed via the Internet. These Information Sessions are free of charge. To learn more, or to register, please visit the CDFI Fund's website at [www.cdfifund.gov](http://www.cdfifund.gov) or call (202) 622-8401.

## ***FARM LABOR HOUSING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FROM USDA***

USDA's Rural Housing Service has announced today the availability of funds

and the timeframe to submit proposals for Farm Labor Housing Technical Assistance grants. Section 516 of the Housing Act of 1949 authorizes the Rural Housing Service (RHS) to provide financial assistance (grants) to eligible private and public nonprofit agencies to encourage the development of domestic and migrant farm labor housing projects. This RFP requests proposals from qualified private and public nonprofit agencies to provide technical assistance to groups who qualify for FLH loans and grants. Work performed under these grants is expected to result in an increased submission of applications for farm labor housing loans and grants under the section 514 and 516 programs and in an increase of the availability of decent, safe, and sanitary housing for farm laborers.

The deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this RFP is 5 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on May 3, 2004. Full details at USDA's Rural Housing Service announced the availability of funds and the timeframe to submit proposals for Farm Labor Housing Technical Assistance grants. Full details may be accessed through the following link:  
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.acces.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-4827.pdf>

***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](mailto:salas-kos.gloria@dol.gov)) or Rachel Hughins ([hughins.rachel@dol.gov](mailto:hughins.rachel@dol.gov)).