

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources

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U. S. Department of Labor, Office of National Programs,
Division of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program
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Upcoming Events

- **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
- **May 24 -26** [15th Annual Delta Association for Rural Initiatives](#) (DARI), Radisson Hotel Opryland, Nashville, TN. Click [here](#) for online hotel registration information.
- **July 11-13** "Integration...Transformation...Innovation." [Workforce Innovations Conference](#), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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

Department Announces Grant Opportunity for Faith-Based and Grassroots Organizations to Link to the One-Stop Delivery System

The Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) and the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) have announced the availability of \$1,000,000 to award grants to eligible "grassroots" organizations with the ability to connect to the local One-Stop delivery system.

The solicitation for grant application is contained in the [March 25 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) and will also be available for download at www.doleta.gov/sga.

The REGISTER notice describes the composition of the solicitation:

- Part I describes an overview of the funding opportunity
- Part II describes the size and nature of the award.
- Part III describes who qualifies as eligible applicants.
- Part IV provides information on the application and submission process.
- Part V explains the review process and rating criteria that will be used to evaluate applications for funding.
- Part VI provides award administration information.
- Part VII contains agency contact information.
- Part VIII lists additional resources of interest to applicants.

Applications must be submitted by April 28, 2005.

The Department expects to award approximately 40-50 grants. The grant

amount for each grassroots organization is expected to range between \$20,000 and \$25,000. The period of performance will be 12 months from the date of execution by the Department.

Announcement of this award is expected to occur by June 30, 2005.

Part VIII of the SGA notes that the Department:

...maintains a number of web-based resources that may be of assistance to applicants. The webpage for the Department's Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives (<http://www.dol.gov/cfbc>) is a valuable source of background on this initiative. America's Service Locator (<http://www.servicelocator.org>) provides

Department Announces Grant Opportunity for Workforce Investment Boards to Build Partnerships between Faith-Based and Community Organizations and Local One-Stop Delivery Systems

The Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), have announced the availability up to \$5 million for grants to eligible Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) that have demonstrated successfully the ability to form working partnerships with grassroots faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs). Grassroots FBCOs may include faith-based and community organizations, minority-led or immigrant-led non-profit or community development organizations and/or other small non-profit organizations.

This grant will build upon successful ETA grants from program years (PY) 2001 to 2004 that focused on the use of intermediaries and WIBs to build partnerships between FBCOs and local One-Stop systems. The WIB will develop and implement an 18-month project to encourage the formation of long-term contractual and non-contractual

a directory of our nation's One-Stop Career Centers. ETA has a webpage (<http://www.doleta.gov/regions>), which contains contact information for the state and local Workforce Investment Boards. Applicants are encouraged to review "[Understanding the Department of Labor Solicitation for Grant Applications and How to Write an Effective Proposal.](#)"

Also recommended for prospective applicants:

[Guidance to Faith-Based and Community Organizations on Partnering with the Federal Government](#)

[Touching Lives and Communities Training Video Workshops](#)

partnerships with FBCOs that meet an unmet community need related to hard-to-serve populations (e.g., ex-offenders, limited-English, welfare-to work, etc.).

This investment supports and complements the [President's High-Growth Job Training Initiative](#). The foundation of this initiative is the creation of partnerships to work collaboratively in the development of solutions to the human resource challenges facing our growth industries, while developing maximum access for American workers to gain the competencies they need to obtain good jobs.

This grant also complements ETA's ongoing sectoral employment research and evaluations--i.e., identifying workforce needs and opportunities within a local or regional industry or cross-industry occupational group while retaining a focus on economic performance and competitiveness. FBCOs can discharge a significant community role in assisting Boards by bringing new entrants to the job market that can be trained and equipped to meet emerging and evolving industry needs. Each applicant Board will identify up to three businesses or industry sectors to collaborate with the Board and FBCOs within the local One- Stop system to

provide jobs for qualified employees from the identified geographic areas.

The closing date for applications is May 4, 2005. The Department expects to award approximately 10 to 20 grants based on the rating of applications and other factors, which may include urban/rural and geographical balance. The grant amount for each WIB is expected to range between

President's Prisoner Re-entry Initiative: Department Announces \$19.8 Million in Funding for Faith-Based and Community Organizations; Expects Awards for 30 Communities

The President's Prisoner Re-entry Initiative seeks to strengthen urban communities characterized by large numbers of returning prisoners through an employment-centered program that incorporates mentoring, job training, and other comprehensive transitional services. This program, which involves several Federal agencies, is designed to reduce recidivism by helping inmates find work when they return to their communities, as part of an effort to build a life in the community for everyone.

The Department of Labor will be awarding grants under the Initiative to faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to be the agencies carry out this demonstration. The Department expects that a total of \$19,840,000 will be awarded in initial grants with funding provided for 30 projects. The Department anticipates that FBCOs will receive grants of approximately \$660,000 to cover their first year of operations. Applicants may request a larger or smaller amount based on the size of the community to be served, but deviations from this amount must be clearly justified in the application.

The [April 1 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides the Initiative objectives, design and structure, additional eligibility requirements, guidelines for proposals, submission information and other background helpful for the prospective applicants. The announcement also

\$300,000 and \$500,000. The period of performance will be 18 months from the date of execution by the Department.

Announcement of this award is expected to occur by July 1, 2005.

The [March 28 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides full background on this competition and the application

addresses partnership requirements, eligible individuals to be served under the Initiative, evaluation mechanisms and responsibilities, and the necessary outcome measures which must be addressed in the application.

The closing date for receipt of applications under this Initiative announcement is July 13, 2005.

The REGISTER also announcement notes:

"The Department of Justice will subsequently award competitive grants to State agencies to provide pre-release services to prisoners who will be returning to the communities served by the Department of Labor grants.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development may in future years provide funds under this initiative for housing services and the Department of Health and Human Services is also assisting in the design and implementation of the initiative regarding substance abuse and mental health treatment.

We hope to serve 6,250 released prisoners during the first year of this initiative with projects operating in 30 communities across the country."

Yes, the [CareerOneStop Staff Coach](#) is now available for workforce development professionals across the county. This tool is designed for staff to effectively utilize the CareerOneStop e-tools in serving the business and jobseeker communities. The Coach provides a detailed lineup of possible customer scenarios. Front-line staff can

choose the desired scenario and will be guided through the entire batting order of CareerOneStop e-tools with "Tips" on effectively using the sites with the respective customer. Workforce development professionals may choose to master the CareerOneStop Staff Coach learning tool desk-side. They can choose to learn about various resources -- *WIA State Planning Guide, Career Voyages, CareerOneStop websites, and Workforce Tools of the Trade*. Or they may elect a number of customer-specific scenarios -- *Dislocated Worker, Veteran transitioning to civilian job, Youth, Demand Occupations, Job or Career Advancement*, and several others.

The new Workforce Development Staff Coach can assist workforce development staff in understanding how to beneficially

use existing content and web pages to address new initiatives (e.g., targeting high growth industries and occupations and providing demand-driven services). By gaining familiarity with the CareerOneStop websites and expanding access to rich repositories of career information, staff can ultimately help customers to become more self-sufficient.

Please give the Coach a try ... and commend the Coach to your colleagues in the workforce development community.

Please send your comments and suggestions through the Coach's "Feedback" link or directly to ETA's [Harvey Ollis](#).



Regional Announcements

REGION I

- Worldwide demand for solar power is driving a New Hampshire business to become more efficient, add workers, and consider expansion. (GT) Solar Technologies, a division of GT Equipment Technologies Inc. (GTi), builds the furnaces needed to melt raw silicon into blocks, essential to building solar panels. GT Solar has generated a record backlog of nearly \$40 million in orders over the past eight months; an increase of more than 500 percent over the previous year. Increased global demand for furnaces has led GT Solar to

establish a more efficient production method, called "cellular flow manufacturing," which is one step away from the assembly line. The company was provided initial training on LEAN manufacturing and related instruction by the New Hampshire Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NH MEP) and now has their own team in place to continue refining the companies manufacturing strategies and operations. The streamlined process is expected to increase GT Solar's production capacity by four to five times.

REGION II

- Kraft Plant in PA Adding to Production:** Kraft Foods in Upper Macungie Township, PA will add production facilities to make single-serve packages for its new hot beverage system. The new line will be built this year. It is not yet known how many new jobs will come to this facility that currently employs 550 employees.

- L.E. Smith Owner Buys VA Glass Firm:** The Mount Pleasant, Virginia firm L.E. Smith Glass Co. has purchased the assets of a defunct Virginia metals company and is considering whether to run them both in Westmoreland County, PA. The company is in the process of doing a cost-benefit analysis on leaving

the facility in Virginia or moving it to Westmoreland County, PA. Shifting production to Westmoreland County would bring 40 new jobs there.

- **U.S. Postal Service Announces Job Opportunities in West Virginia:** The United States Postal Service is encouraging interested individuals to apply for job opportunities at various locations in West Virginia, including Point Pleasant. Job opportunities include city carrier, mail processing clerk, mail handler, or sales, services and distribution associates.
- **Mercer County, Pennsylvania to Add 50 New Jobs:** The Canadian company that manufactures aluminum bottles for Pittsburgh Brewing at its Hermitage facility has approved an expansion. The plant currently employs about 190; the investment would be made over a three-year period.
- **Allegheny County Airport Hopes to Lure Manufacturing Plant:** The Allegheny County (PA) Airport Authority has submitted a bid to Airbus to consider opening a manufacturing plant

at Pittsburgh International Airport. The problem/challenge is that Pittsburgh's bridges, tunnels and underpasses are not designed to accommodate loads as tall as 25 feet. The authority has mapped out a route whereby aircraft parts would be transported on barges. If the manufacturing plant comes to Pittsburgh as many as 1,100 employees would be hired.

- **Steelmaker Gerdau Ameristeel Coming to King George County, Virginia:** Gerdau Ameristeel is closing its rebar fabrication plant in Baltimore, Md. and moving that operation to a facility in King George County, Virginia. The proposed site is the Northern Neck region of Virginia. The relocation brings with it approximately 50 new jobs.
- **Peebles Department Stores Expanding in Mecklenburg County, VA:** Stage Stores, Inc., the parent company of Peebles Department Stores, is expanding and upgrading its headquarters building and distribution center in South Hill, Virginia. The move will retain 244 existing jobs and add 107 new positions once the upgrade is complete.

REGION III

- **Barbour Signs Work Training Bill – Update** Governor Haley Barbour has signed into law a bill that would put \$20 million into Mississippi's workforce training programs. The state's 15 two-year colleges will operate the training programs. Small businesses will get a tax break to help create jobs and shift the \$20 million to fund more into workforce training at colleges and help workers. It will create a training enhancement contribution for employers who pay unemployment compensation and provide for suspension of the contribution under certain conditions.
- **Thermoforming to Open Fourth Plant in Memphis** Racine, Wisconsin-based Thermoforming, Incorporated, will open its fourth plant

in Memphis, creating 28 jobs with a median wage of \$24,960.

- **Research Triangle Park Tool Maker, Teleflex, Plans to Hire 150 in North Carolina** Teleflex, a tool maker for the aerospace, automotive and medical industries, plans to lay off employees in California and Georgia and transferring jobs to its medical equipment facility in Research Triangle Park. Teleflex Medical, makes medical and surgical instruments such as disposable clamps, employs about 500 in Research Triangle Park and is looking to hire 150 more in the next few weeks.
- **Maillis Strapping Systems to Open Upstate Site** Maillis Strapping Systems

U.S.A. will locate its North American headquarters in a 70,000-square-foot facility in Fountain Inn, South Carolina. Sixty people will initially work in the \$15 million facility that is expected to begin production this summer.

- **Home Depot Adds a Distribution Center in McDonough, Georgia** Home Depot is expanding its distribution network in the Atlanta area to feed stores throughout the South. The

Atlanta-based company has leased a warehouse of about one million square feet of space in McDonough, Georgia. The new distribution center will employ 250 workers.

- **Verizon Wireless to Add 250 Workers in Columbia, South Carolina** Verizon Wireless is bulking up its Columbia call center, adding 250 new employees in the next several months.

REGION IV

- **New Program in Louisiana Helps Residents Finish College** Starting in April, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System will start a new program that aims to help Louisiana residents that never finished college, earn degrees and certifications. The program will send counselors into communities across the state to seek out college dropouts and advise them about what additional classes they need to receive an Associates Degree and more. In 2000, as few as 4 percent of Louisiana residents held two-year associate degrees. The lack of higher education is hurting the states workforce. "The majority of new jobs require education beyond high school, but less than a four-year degree," the Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Savoie stated. Savoie said the program will focus on getting individuals into programs and fields that best apply to the credits they earned before dropping out. They will also assist individuals navigate their financial aid options.
- **Utah Releases Special Study on Job Vacancies** The Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS) has released a special study on job vacancies. The survey measured the quantity and characteristics of vacant jobs in Utah by geographic area. Job seekers can use it to see what kind of occupations are vacant, and employers can profile what labor shortages or skills gaps exist in

the labor market. The DWS website provides information on the DWS and the Office of Child Care newly formed partnership with Utah Business Magazine to acknowledge Utah's best employers. The purpose of the partnership is to merge the Department of Workforce Services, "Work/Life Awards and the Utah Business Magazine's Best Companies to Work For" award. DWS advises it will provide a strong nomination, review and research methodology. Utah Business Magazine will co-sponsor the award by featuring the 2005 Best Companies to Work For in the May 2005 issue of their magazine.

- **Jobs to be Created through Economic Incentives** Utah's "Desert News" reported this week that the Board of Business and Economic Development will use its Industrial Assistance Fund to provide an incentive for an unnamed company to create jobs in a rural area. The board approved \$249,800 for a total of 134 new jobs. The company would get approximately \$2200 per job paying 125 percent of the county median, if it kept the jobs in Utah at least five years.
- **Capacity Building for Workforce Partners** The Texas Workforce Commission has two upcoming Quarterly Workforce Forums from March through September of 2005. The Quarterly Workforce Forums are designed to increase staff (Board,

Contractor and Texas Workforce Commission) capacity through knowledge and information exchange. Forums provide an opportunity for workforce partners to collaborate, innovate, and eliminate inefficiencies in service delivery. Presentations deliver

information on how to better serve customers, employers, employees and participants through their workforce centers. The next forum is scheduled August 30-September 1, 2005 at the Omni South Park Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Other Announcements

New Data Validation Software Available for the National Farmworker Jobs Program

The National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) Data Validation software is now available on the ETA Performance website. The software can be downloaded at <http://www.us.es.doleta.gov/dv/>

the handbook and users' guide (Appendix G in the handbook) can be downloaded at www.doleta.gov/performance

Follow the links to the Data Validation section and there is a separate section for the NFJP materials.

All questions regarding the software and data validation process should be sent to the main technical assistance email address: nfjpta@mathematica-mpr.com

TEGL25-04: ETA Publishes New Eligibility Guidance for the National Farmworker Jobs Program

TEGL 25-04 - [Participant Eligibility Guidance](#) provides clarification on the requirements for identifying disadvantaged migrant and seasonal farmworkers who may be eligible for the National Farmworker Jobs Program. The attachment - [NFJP Eligibility Guidance](#) provides a series of Questions and Answers to support the guidance.

TEGL 28-04: ETA Publishes Common Measures Policy for Federal Job Training and Employment Programs

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has issued [Training and Employment Guidance Letter \(TEGL\) 28-04 -- Common Measures Policy](#). This TEGL advises states and grantees of the agency's revised policy on common performance measures for Federal job training and employment programs. TEGL 28-04 rescinds TEGL 15-03. State Workforce Agencies and State Workforce Liaisons are requested to make the TEGL available to all appropriate program office staff.

Sections 2 and 3 of TEGL 28-04 furnish key references and background.

Section 4 "Program Participation and Exit" provides questions, answers, operational parameters and discussion for three specific topics -- "Point of Program Participation for Reporting," "Point of Exit for Reporting," and "Excluding Participants from the Common Measures." Section 4 can be found on pages 4 through 7.

Section 5 of the TEGL presents a discussion of ETA's common measures policy with statements of methodology and operational parameters followed by discussion.

- Introduction to Common Measures Methodologies (Page 7)
- Adult Measures: Entered Employment, Employment Retention and Six Months Earnings Increase (Pages 8 - 10)

- Youth Measures: Placement in Employment or Education, Attainment of a Degree or Certificate, Literacy and Numeracy Gains (Pages 10 - 16)

Section 6 of the TEGL (beginning on page 16) describes the data sources and methods to collect data for the common measures with coverage of wage records, supplemental sources of data and

Useful Websites

Work-based Learning.Org – Is an online tool bank for individuals designing and administering work-based learning programs, to learn more visit: www.work-basedlearning.org/

Farmworker Health Sites

Environmental Protection Agency Pesticide Safety Program
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/>

administrative records. The TEGL also provides four attachments:

- Federal Job Training and Employment Programs Impacted by Common Measures
- Common Measures At-A-Glance
- Definitions of Key Terms
- Educational Functioning Level Descriptors



- Migrant Clinicians Network
<http://www.migrantclinician.org/>
- National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc. <http://ncfh.org/>

Publications and Other Resources

Findings from the National Agricultural Workers Survey 2001-2002 Now Available

The [Findings from the National Agricultural Workers Survey \(NAWS\) 2001-2002](#), Research Report No. 9, is now available on the U. S. Department of Labor's website.

The report, produced through a collaboration of the U. S. Department of Labor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, and Aguirre International, Inc. includes demographic information for migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the United States.

Funding Opportunities

Amazon.com Announces Nonprofit Innovation Award

Amazon.com is accepting applications for the Amazon.com Nonprofit Innovation Award, which recognizes and rewards nonprofit organizations whose innovative approaches most effectively improve their communities or the world at large. Ten organizations selected as finalists will have a unique

opportunity to raise funds and awareness for their programs on Amazon.com. All 10 finalists will be profiled on their own Amazon.com pages, where customers will be invited to vote for their favorites by making monetary donations. The organization that receives the largest amount of customer contributions by the deadline will receive the award, along with

a matching grant of up to \$1 million from Amazon.com. For more information, go to <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/browse/-/13786331/102-2927919-6283306>.

HHS Grant: Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention The Department of Health and Human Services has announced a grant competition designed to integrate youth violence prevention practices and concepts into a national effort to address youth violence within U.S. cities and assist key stakeholders, policy leaders, and practitioners in adopting sustainable youth violence prevention efforts. Letter of Intent deadline: April 1, 2005; Application deadline: May 2, 2005. For the full description, go to <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-3981.pdf>.

PacifiCorp foundation for Learning Grant Opportunity PacifiCorp Foundation is accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations to address the needs of communities. These grants should focus on four primary areas: civic and community betterment, arts and culture, health and human services, and education. Organizations with 501(c)(3) status and who are not classified as private foundations are eligible to apply. Deadlines vary depending on the type of organization – the first is March 15. For more information, go to <http://www.pacificorpfoundation.org/Article/Article25110.html>.

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)