

Webinar Invitation Young Parents Demonstration (YPD) Grants: Prospective Applicant Orientation

The Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) Office of Policy Development and Research (OPDR), in conjunction with the Office of Grants and Contracts Management will conduct an orientation for prospective applicants of the Young Parents Demonstration (YPD) Grants. The purpose of the Webinar is to provide prospective applicants with guidelines and other essential reference tools needed for submitting an application.

Presenters: **Jonathan Simonetta**, Team Leader, Division of Pilots and Demonstrations, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration
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Moderator: **Jonathan Simonetta**, Team Leader, Division of Pilots and Demonstrations, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration

Date: 10/22/2008

Time: 3:30pm Eastern (2:30pm/Central, 1:30pm/Mountain, 12:30pm/Pacific)

Length: 90 minutes

Description:

The United States continues to have one of the highest rates of teen pregnancy and teen births among industrialized nations. In 2006, there were nearly 420,000 births to adolescents under the age of 20. Early pregnancy and childbearing is closely linked to a host of critical social issues:

- Teen mothers are more likely to drop out of school, live in poverty, have lower overall educational attainment, and be dependent on public assistance at some point in their lives.
- Two-thirds of families begun by a young unmarried mother are low-income.
- Fifty-two percent of all mothers on welfare had their first child as a teenager.
- Teen childbearing is estimated to cost taxpayers \$9.1 billion each year, including public sector health care costs, increased child welfare costs, and lost tax revenue.
- Teens in foster care or transitioning out of foster care are at a greater risk of becoming teen parents and lack the support systems that a family can provide.
- Fathers of children born to teens also experience the educational and financial effects of early childbearing. Men who have a child with a teen mother tend to complete fewer years of education, are less likely to receive a high school diploma or GED, and earn 10 to 15 percent less than men who do not have children during their teen years.

Given these issues, ETA announced on October 3, 2008, the availability of approximately \$5 million to fund demonstration grants that target the employment and training needs of young parents. The Young Parents Demonstration program is to provide educational and occupational skills training leading to family economic self-sufficiency to both mothers and fathers, and expectant mothers ages 16 to 24. Projects funded will be encouraged to serve young parents in high-risk categories, including those who are court-involved, in the child welfare or foster care system, homeless, or victims of child abuse. For additional information on this Solicitation please visit ETA's Web site at: http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm.

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