

U.S. Senator

**TOM HARKIN** OF IOWA



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## **HARKIN: STIMULUS WILL HELP EDUCATE AND TRAIN IOWA'S WORKFORCE FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ECONOMY**

*"We are in the grips of a destructive recession that has shaken people's confidence in America's economic system. People are hurting. Millions have lost their jobs, retirement savings and access to health care. It took many years of flawed policies and reckless behaviors to get us into the current economic mess and recovery will not happen overnight."*

*"The economic recovery package will chart a new course for America by investing in our most important natural resource - our people. It begins a new era of transformational change in our economy - one that will give us true 21<sup>st</sup> century health care system emphasizing information technology, prevention and wellness, an energy system based increasingly on clean, renewable, domestically produced electricity and fuels, an education system that begins with world-class early childhood education and ends with giving every American access to higher education and advanced training." - Senator Tom Harkin.*

**State Fiscal Stabilization Fund:** \$386.3 million to help local school districts and public colleges and universities avoid layoffs. Incentive grants are also offered as a reward for meeting key education performance measures. This funding can also be used for other high priority needs such as public safety and other critical services.

**State Employment Services Grants:** \$3.9 million to Iowa Workforce Development to match unemployed individuals to job openings and provide customized reemployment services.

**State Grants for Job Training:** \$6.3 million in Dislocated Workers State Grants, \$5.2 million for Youth State Grants and \$1.6 million for Adult State Grants. These funds will help Iowa Workforce Development and workforce investment boards meet the immediate workforce needs of local communities, as well as invest in training to help prepare the workforce for the economy of tomorrow.

**Other Workforce Development:** A total of \$950 million is available to the U.S. Department of Labor for the following: \$500 million for grants focusing on training, research and labor exchange for "Green Jobs", such as those in energy efficiency and renewable energy, \$250 million is available for training capacity building at community colleges and other training providers in health care and other high growth industries, and \$200 million is available for National Emergency Grants to communities hit particularly hard by mass layoffs and other economic dislocations.

**Vocational Rehabilitation Training:** \$5.7 million for Vocational Rehabilitation to help individuals with disabilities prepare for and sustain gainful employment.

**AmeriCorps:** \$200 million for AmeriCorps programs nationally. These funds will be used for new or expanded AmeriCorps grants, and \$65 million will be used for additional VISTA volunteers. These funds will be used to support part-time and full-time volunteers at non-profit organizations helping those hit hardest by the flood and the economic downturn.

**Job Corps:** \$250 million to address immediate Job Corps facility repairs and renovation, as well as support construction at the new Job Corps Center in Ottumwa. Up to 15 percent of available funds also may be used for existing Job Corps Centers that are facing shortfalls in their current operating budgets.

**YouthBuild:** \$50 million to help disadvantaged youth re-connect with education and engage in construction skills training. Competitive grants are awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor and these funds will support grants under a grant competition that closed earlier this year, as well as a future grant competition. The added benefit of the YouthBuild program is the creation of affordable housing in low-income communities.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will be carried out with full transparency and accountability. To track the progress: please go to [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).