

## PY 2003 Incentive Grant Summaries

**Alabama:** \$912,153

**Contact:** Bill Johnson,  
Acting Director  
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

### Proposed Activities:

- Create a Health Care Academy that will address shortages of skilled labor and increase employee diversity in the healthcare sector.
- Fund an Industrial Systems Technology Class with a curriculum designed and implemented by the state Vocational and Adult Education agencies.
- Create a Career Readiness Certification program to help employers identify job candidates ready to enter employment
- Purchase a mobile Career Center to increase the accessibility of workforce development programs to all residents throughout the state.

**Colorado:** \$ 825,020

**Contact:** Elise Lowe-Vaughn  
Operations Director for Workforce Development Programs  
Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

### Proposed Activities:

- Create “Breaking Barriers/Building Bridges” collaborative grants to improve services for special populations currently underserved, specifically inmates/ex-offenders and refugees. The goal is to provide increased access to workforce, basic skills and post secondary offerings through a collaborative effort coordinated through the Colorado Departments of Labor & Employment, Education, Corrections and the Community College system.
- Continue to support and update the e-Colorado learning portal which provides a single point of entry for employers and job seekers seeking workers and employment opportunities throughout the state.
- Award additional funding to the most successful collaborative partnerships developed by workforce centers, community colleges and family literacy centers under the PY 2002 incentive grant. The programs that are most successful in transitioning hard to serve clients into education, training and employment activities will received continued funding.

**Delaware:** \$776,272

**Contact:** Robert Strong  
Director, Division of Employment and Training  
Delaware Department of Labor

**Proposed Activities:**

- Strengthen the state's career and technical education programs by aligning current programs with corresponding industry certification.
- Develop a comprehensive career and technical education review process between the Departments of Education and Labor to measure the success of former and current student and improve the quality of performance data collected on program participants.
- Transition 250 adults from adult education programs funded under AEFLA to family sustaining employment or post secondary educational programs through collaborative efforts between the Departments of Education and Labor.

**Georgia:** \$944,675

**Contact:** Linda Johnson  
Georgia Department of Labor

**Proposed Activities:**

- Continue funding 4 projects established with the PY 2002 grant award:
  - Support career development services at the high school level
  - Promoting support services for limited English speaking, at-risk students in post secondary education
  - Provide instructional support for serving adult learners with disabilities
  - Support a literacy information management system
- Implement a research-based program evaluation and review process model within the Office of Adult Literacy that will determine the quality of instruction at the service delivery area (SDA) level by focusing on two central questions:
  - What does and effective program look like?
  - How can program effectiveness be verified?

**Iowa:**           **\$803,173**

**Contact:**       Anthony Dietsch  
Administrator, Division of Workforce Center Administration  
Iowa Workforce Development

**Proposed Activities:**

- The state will continue to fund efforts to increase literacy, particularly for “New Iowans” who may need assistance with English as a Second Language. A specific activity planned under the grant will concentrate on systemic change by establishing the Family Literacy and High Expectation Model which promotes literacy activities between adult family members. Literacy gains for job seekers will be targeted in the Iowa One-Stop system through the use of technology, basic education and soft skills training.

**Indiana:**       **\$879,629**

**Contact:**       Andrew Penca  
Deputy Commissioner  
Indiana Department of Workforce Development

**Proposed Activities:**

- Establish a work basic skills credential that will certify a worker's abilities in a number of areas including literacy, math, communication skills, and the ability to use technology.
- Develop a network of workforce-specialized adult education brokers and use market-based incentives to increase the number of workers certified in workforce basic skills.
- Develop new strategies to improve employer/job-seeker communications to articulate the needs and expectations of both parties in the workplace.

**Louisiana:**    \$966,800

**Contact:**       Chris Weaver  
Louisiana Workforce Commission

**Proposed Activities:**

- The state plans to implement a variety of workforce education, training, employment and support service activities centered on the theme “Work Smarter, Go Higher”. Activities include computer-assisted adult learning labs for low income parents, incumbent worker training at the worksite, better

agency cooperation across funding streams to provide a more seamless array of education and workforce services and the implementation of industry-based certifications using Work Keys and Work Ready! Assessments.

**Maryland:** \$870,909

**Contact:** Bernard Antkowiak  
Assistant Secretary, Division of Workforce Development  
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

**Proposed Activities:**

- Award grants to local Workforce Investment Boards to develop models to serve out-of-school youth programs that support the DOL/ETA Strategic Vision for Youth
- Finish developing a web-enabled system that will provide web enabled GED services to customers twenty-four hours a day/seven days a week.
- Develop career and technology education program focusing on health care and biomedical careers. Activities include promoting career awareness, career exploration, and curriculum development focusing on the skills necessary to enter the health care field.

**Michigan:** \$1,024,160

**Contact:** Deb LaPine  
Director, Career Education Programs  
Department of Labor & Economic Growth

**Proposed Activities:**

- Secure bid to host the FIRST Robotics International Championship to promote careers in science, math, engineering and technical professions.
- Increase community college articulation through 16 career clusters
- Develop a comprehensive employment basic skills/soft skills curriculum that will allow Michigan employers to fill vacancies with better-qualified job applicants.

**Minnesota:** \$852,449

**Contact:** Brenda Norman  
Governor's Workforce Development Council

**Proposed Activities:**

- Develop programs to improve the math skills at the high school level through contextual, applied learning opportunities which focus on emerging occupations, such as biotechnology and health care.

**Missouri:** \$891,441

**Contact:** Nancy Headrick  
Assistant Commissioner, Division of Career Education  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

**Proposed Activities:**

- Increase opportunities for workplace literacy and expand partnerships between local adult education programs and One-Stop Career Centers
- Create a Biomedical Life Sciences Program
- Continue development of the Web-based career management system in collaboration with the Division of Career Education which allows parents, students, employers and educators to search for information related to careers, career development, and career planning.
- Create GED distance learning opportunities for adult learners

**Nebraska:** \$783,830

**Contact:** Joan Modrell  
Executive Director, Office of Workforce Services  
Nebraska Department of Labor

**Proposed Activities:**

- Continue funding four projects designed to help transition English as a Second Language students into the employment market
- Increasing public awareness of GED opportunities through a statewide marketing campaign
- Continue supporting a tri state consortium, with Missouri and Oklahoma, which coordinates information on careers, local job markets, training, college planning and economic development.
- Hire staff to develop new training and career pathways that will respond to the growing economic develop needs of the state
- Implement a workplace readiness skills assessment for schools and One-Stop centers
- Develop an outreach and messaging campaign to the business community to increase awareness, involvement, and utilization of Nebraska's One-Stop delivery system

**Nevada:** \$797,987

**Contact:** Birget Baker  
Director, Employment Security Division  
Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

**Proposed Activities:**

- Sponsor a Statewide Youth Conference for employers, parents, educators and youth to develop education and employment strategies to serve the most at-risk and neediest youth
- Award grants through the Governor's Workforce Investment Board to create programs serving youth aging out of foster care, high school dropouts, incarcerated youth and youth with developmental and physical disabilities
- Provide funding to Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language programs that focus on literacy levels and GED attainment
- Expand access to online GED programs
- Develop new skill standards and curriculum guides for emerging occupations and provide professional development training for vocational educators

**North Dakota:** \$772.770

**Contact:** Maren Daley  
Executive Director  
Job Service North Dakota

**Proposed Activities:**

- Integrate incentive award funds with other federal and state workforce development and training funds to expand access to the state One-Stop system, address skill gaps, develop customized service approaches for target populations, develop new approaches to serving youth and provide capacity building for front-line staff

**Oregon:** \$ 874,471

**Contact:** Cam Preus-Braly  
Commissioner  
Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development

**Proposed Activities:**

- Expand the *Pathways to Advancement* program which connects education, workforce opportunities and support services and allow participants to advance into better jobs and higher levels of education.

**Pennsylvania:** \$1,076,445

**Contact:** Sandi Vito  
Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development  
Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

**Proposed Activities:**

- Create a *Career Gateway* program which will increase the capacity of the Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) infrastructure to successfully transition adults and older youth from literacy education post-secondary training.

**South Carolina:** \$867,055

**Contact:** Tim Dangerfield  
Chief of Staff  
South Carolina Department of Commerce

**Proposed Activities:**

- Support a collaborative effort with *Project Lead the Way* to build a curriculum in Biomedical and Life Sciences.
- Purchase a one year state license for secondary and technical college students to use the internet-based Kuder Career Planning System.
- Implement the Work Keys Assessment tool in Department of Commerce and Department of Education programs

**South Dakota:** \$773,309

**Contact:** Michael Ryan  
South Dakota Department of Labor

**Proposed Activities:**

- Enhance workforce development services throughout the state by 1) providing more information about high growth/high demand industries and related training, 2) increase skills of alternative and adult education teachers so they can better prepare out-of-school youth for postsecondary education, 3) provide training for front line staff workforce development staff so they can better meet the needs of employers and 4) improve technology across state agencies to allow for greater information sharing and reduce inefficiency.
- Improve adult education and literacy programs by 1) upgrading the Student Information Management system to improve the collection of data and allow for real-time data availability, 2) design, develop and implement English as a Second Language (ESL) professional development training through the Center for Adult English Language Acquisition (CAELA) project, 3) develop Workplace Literacy

models and 4) provide technology and assistance to rural communities to support adult education and literacy programs.

**Tennessee:** \$912,500

**Contact:** Paul Haynes  
Administrator, Adult Education  
Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

**Proposed Activities:**

- Increase staff training for the Governor's Job Cabinet
- Increase the number of GED graduates by paying for more instruction and purchasing preparation materials
- Develop workshops for vocational technical education teachers emphasizing the development of academic skills through vocational programs.