

PY 2006 Incentive Grant Summaries

ARIZONA

Contact: Jerald W. Goode
State of Arizona
1535 W. Jefferson Street, Bin #26
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Jerald.goode@azed.gov
602-364-2667

Award Amount: \$1,112,979

Proposed Activities

PY 06 Incentive Funds will provide AWC an opportunity to enhance the coordination of adult basic skills education, career and technical education, and workforce development services. The partner programs that exceeded program goals to earn these incentive funds, Adult Education Services (AES), Career and Technical Education (CTE), and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), will deliver an integrated health care and targeted industry initiative that crosses program boundaries in both urban and rural settings, to address this critical shortage of qualified health care and targeted high demand occupations.

This project incorporates priority service delivery for individuals who will become entry-level workers, who may need Basic English literacy skills, TANF recipients, single parents, out of school youth, the formerly incarcerated, and secondary and postsecondary CTE students. It will provide health care and high demand industry specific education and employment opportunities through expanded involvement in occupational education programs at secondary and post-secondary institutions. Individuals will also have the opportunity to assess the industry employability and technical skills attained and to be awarded certificates of completion.

Clients/students will continue to enter through any partner door – truly a “no wrong door” approach. Each partner will be responsible for providing services and referring to other partners for services, depending on each individual’s needs

CONNECTICUT

Contact: **Mr. Stephen Litke**
 Connecticut Department of Labor
 200 Folly Brook Blvd.
 Wethersfield, CT 06109
 860-263-6599
 Stephen.litke@ct.gov

Award Amount: **\$953,347**

Proposed Activities

Connecticut proposes the following ten projects:

- The *Developing Tomorrow's Professionals (DTP)* program is designed for Black and Latino males from secondary (high school) and adult education programs to address barriers as well as combine academic instruction, professional/workplace-learning opportunities, extensive male Black/Latino mentoring leading to matriculation to a four-year college
- *Incumbent Worker Education and Training for Low-Wage Low-Skill Workers* will facilitate the development and integration of basic skills education and adult secondary completion programs that link participants to technical skills training for specific businesses.
- *Workforce Alliance* proposes to greatly expand the scope and design its existing Career Advancement program which, for the past two years, has served working individuals whose hourly rate is less than the self-sufficiency standard adopted by the WIB (\$19.29 per hour).
- **Strengthening Developmental Assets within Waterbury youth** will build Developmental Assets among youth to promote positive youth development for a network of youth trained in the 40 Developmental Assets, as well as youth training other youth.
- **Helping Others Make Education Lead to Economic Self Sufficiency** will act cooperatively to provide low-income and homeless adults in these municipalities with case management, adult basic education remediation, work ethic and vocational education skills in the food service industry affording them the opportunity to become self-sufficient.
- *Manufacturing Pipeline Program's* purpose is to expand awareness of manufacturing careers among Eastern Connecticut youth and to improve the pipeline of students entering this field. .
- *Self-Paced Workplace Skills Education Program* proposes to implement self-paced workplace skills programs through on-line learning at the Hartford CT Works Center.

- ***Workplace Education Pilot Program*** will establish a companion program to its Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) to resource regional businesses needs for basic skills or English language training.
- ***Staff Capacity Initiative to Build Competency in Workforce Development Through On-Line Training*** will purchase online learning packages for non-CWP funded partner agency staff in workforce development competencies.
- The goal of the ***Youth Work & Learn in the Community*** is to provide up to 8 youth with community service, education and employment.

ILLINOIS

Contact: Ray Parrack
 IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
 Bureau of Workforce Development
 620 East Adams
 Springfield, IL 62071
 217-558-2420

Award Amount: \$2,148,397

Proposed Activities

Illinois will use WIA Title V Incentive Grant Funds to undertake three major sets of activities that build from the use of incentive funds from the previous year. This planned use of funds will be:

- **Innovative**—Illinois will use these funds to go beyond those state activities Illinois now conducts with regular federal and state funds by promoting new program models and regional pipeline solutions.
- **Comprehensive and Coordinated**—Illinois will use these funds to develop and implement new models and solutions that integrate and coordinate how ICCB, ISBE, and DCEO and other state and local partners use their funds to build regional pipeline solutions.
- **Targeted to System Performance**—Illinois will develop, pilot-test and evaluate the implementation of these new program models and pipeline solutions with the dual objectives of improving the performance of state systems of employment, training and education linking to critical industry sectors and improving performance in expanding access to targeted populations.

MISSOURI

Contact: **Steve Coffman, Director, Employment Training**
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Division of Career Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480
573-522-6545

Award Amount: **\$1,186,870**

Proposed Activities

The Departments of Elementary and Secondary Education and Economic development identified incentive grant fund activities that are comprehensive, coordinated, and targeted at improving system performance. Additionally, the incentive funds will be used for programs, services, and activities that support workforce development, economic development, and education. The following activities were identified:

- CASE Curriculum Development – Agriculture Education
- Programs of Study Articulation Project
- Web-Based Career Management System
- Work Readiness Preparation and Certification
- GED Online Enhancement
- Technology Improvement for Professional Development
- STAR Training and Statewide Implementation
- Technology Improvements
- AEL Marketing/Branding Next MIS System for Missouri Project
- Grants for Health Literacy
- Public Outreach and Partnership
- Missouri P-20 Council: Aligning Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education and Economic Development
- Sector Competency Work in Two Targeted Clusters
- Electronic Career Interest Assessment
- Shared Youth Vision
- Regional Transformation Forums

MONTANA

Contact: **Mr. Gary Wright**
Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728
1327 Lockey
Helena, MT 59624-1728
406-444-5604
gwright@mt.gov

Award Amount: **\$849,786**

Proposed Activities

Recipients representing WIA Title IB, Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Assistance Act, and AEFLA funds will work together to focus on workforce education and training projects that facilitate innovative talent development and maximize opportunities for employment and life-long learning. The planned activities are authorized under WIA Title I, AEFLA, and the Carl Perkins Act and fall under each of these programs.

1. **Building the Infrastructure:**

The plan proposes to build the infrastructure which is twofold:

- Provide services designed to enable the targeted populations (unemployed/underemployed adults) to gain the skills necessary to attain self-sufficiency and move up the economic ladder; and
- fill the demand for high needs, high skill jobs across the various regions of the state.

2. **Improving Performance Levels**

The State is eager to take a statewide approach in working together to focus on workforce education and training projects that facilitate innovative talent development and maximize opportunities for employment and life-long learning. The State will use this project to establish a common philosophy and evaluation of the workforce system to develop system measures that will mean something to WIA partners.

OHIO

Contact: Jonathan Tafel, Ph.D.
Ohio Board of Regents
Education Linkages and Access
30 East Broad Street, 36th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3414
jtafel@regents.state.oh.us
614-752-9496

Award Amount: \$1,783,568

Proposed Activities

Ohio has moved to strategically realign and integrate their workforce development and educational systems. These funds will allow Ohio to improve and expand the Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) programs ability to serve adults with postsecondary and employment training needs. The proposal will also support the development and implementation of “stackable certificates” which can be earned by individuals seeking to meet skill requirements or increase their skill levels for higher paying job opportunities. This activity will help OHIO to remain economically competitive by increasing the skill and education levels of their workforce.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Contact: Dr. Margaret Torrey
Deputy Secretary of Workforce
1201 Main Street, Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201
803-737-0097
ptorrey@scommerce.com

Award Amount: \$1,111,549

Proposed Activities:

Develop and implement a new program called *Quick Skills SC* which provides unemployed underemployed and displaced workers with a GED, a career readiness certificate and the technical and soft skills to move into available high demand, high wage jobs within a 6-month timeframe.

- All partners will have significant roles in the program:

- Local workforce areas and OneStops will provide case management throughout the program assisting with job matching and placement.
- The Adult Education System will offer Fast Track GED preparation
- Technical colleges will develop skill-based programs that include soft skills components and train with Quick Jobs
- All partners provide certificate testing and remediation

SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: **Mr. Bill Molseed, Administrator**
South Dakota Department of Labor
700 Governor's Drive
Knelp Building
Pierre, SD 57501
Bill.molseed@state.sd.us
605-773-5017

Award Amount: **\$821,995**

Proposed Activities

This proposal will focus on critical needs for South Dakota by building a skilled workforce and increasing the basic education and English language skills of South Dakota Citizens who are not adequately prepared for today's workplace. The following three projects are focus areas critically important in our efforts to improve the vitality of South Dakota businesses:

- Enhancing WIA Services and Activities
- Enhancing AEL Services and Activities
- Enhancing Perkins Services and Activities

