II. Program-Specific Recovery Plan for Recovery.gov (Q 2.8 of Guidance)

DOL Agency MAX ID and name: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

Recovery Program: YouthBuild

Does this program align with an existing CFDA program?	17.274

1. Objectives:

Program Purpose	YouthBuild is a successful strategic approach to workforce investment that supports at-risk youth ages 16-24 in gaining high school credentials and receiving skill training that leads to employment, while constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing for low-income or homeless families in their own neighborhoods. Youth divide their time between the construction site and the classroom.
Public Benefits	YouthBuild provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth, and expands the pool of skilled workers by introducing youth to the construction industry.

2. Projects and Activities:

Kinds and scope of projects and activities to be performed	YouthBuild includes significant support systems, such as a mentoring, follow-up education, employment, and personal counseling services; and participation in community service and civic engagement. The Recovery Act appropriates an additional $50,000,000 for YouthBuild activities. With Recovery Act funds, the program may serve an individual who has dropped out of high school and re-enrolled in an alternative school, if that re-enrollment is part of a sequential service strategy. In accordance with Sec. 801 of the Recovery Act, up to one percent of the program funds provided ($500,000) may be used for management and oversight of the program. These funds are expended in accordance with the operating plan submitted to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress.
Grant Awards	Information on awards will be provided upon award.

3. Characteristics:

Types of Financial Awards to be used.	B Project Grants
Type of Recipient	Public or Private Nonprofit Institution/Organization
Type of Beneficiary	Youth ages 16 – 24

4. Major Planned Program Milestones:

Award YouthBuild Grants	As a result of the infusion of funds through the Recovery Act, ETA is funding approximately 180 YouthBuild programs (up from 107 projected in the FY 2009 budget). Recovery Act funds will support approximately 3,100 additional participant slots. At least half of the programs are providing green construction training. These awards were made in June 2009 with a period of performance from July 2009 through June 2012.
	Completed: July 1, 2009

Orientation of New YouthBuild Grantees	While some existing ETA YouthBuild programs will receive funds through the 2009 competition, the additional Recovery Act funds included in this competition will result in a substantial increase in the number of grants awarded to programs new to ETA. Therefore, ETA will provide in-depth training on the Department's administrative procedures, regulations, and performance expectations to the new YouthBuild grantees from the 2009 competition in Washington, DC on July 28-30. This orientation will be followed by a series of six weekly Webinars that provide concrete information on implementing the YouthBuild program. In September 2009, a second training will be provided for new grantees that focus specifically on the YouthBuild program elements.
	Completed: September 30, 2009
Technical Assistance for YouthBuild Grantees	ETA will provide technical assistance to YouthBuild grantees using a variety of methods including Webinars, on-site technical assistance, national trainings, regional trainings in particular subject areas, and site visits to mature YouthBuild programs. All of the technical assistance is characterized by an emphasis on peer-to-peer learning. In particular, a web-based YouthBuild Community of Practice is used for grantees to exchange and share knowledge and information from each other's experiences and to access many tools and resources developed for the program. ETA will provide technical assistance in green construction techniques, knowledge of and ability to work with sustainable building products, solar panel installation, weatherization techniques to ensure that YouthBuild participants are prepared for and connected to the green economy and high-wage careers associated with this industry.
	Expected Completion Date: Ongoing throughout grant period of performance (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012)
YouthBuild Grantee Reporting	ETA YouthBuild grantees are provided with, at no cost, a web-based Case Management and Performance system that they are required to use for quarterly performance reporting. The first report for YouthBuild grants using Recovery Act funds will be due on November 15, 2009 and will cover July 1 – September 30, 2009.
	Expected Completion Date: Quarterly reports throughout grant period of performance (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012)

5. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The Department has established reporting systems and Office of Management and Budget-approved forms that grantees use to track, document and report expenditures and performance on a regularly scheduled basis that provides updated information to ETA at a minimum of once a quarter. Grantees are required to certify the accuracy of these reports prior to submitting them to ETA through the established electronic reporting systems. ETA also monitors and reviews quarterly Recovery Act recipient reports required under Section 1512, available on Federalreporting.gov.

ETA uses it's Grants Electronic Management System (GEMS) and other related electronic data collection systems to conduct and document quarterly desk reviews of financial obligations, expenditures and program performance. Grantees identified as "high risk grantees" through these reviews are given priority attention for on-site monitoring. ETA's quarterly desk reviews along with on-site reviews are used to identify potential risks and encourage program improvements through technical assistance and training.

To further ensure that funds are spent on the intended purpose and accurately reported, the Department requires all grantees to submit single audits annually. ETA works with grantees to resolve any audit findings through additional reviews and the development and implementation of corrective action plans.

ETA conducts a final review of each grantee's expenditures and performance during the grant close-out process.

The Department expects to select a contractor by June 30 to perform a random assignment impact evaluation of YouthBuild, which will include examination of the Recovery Act's affects on the program. Also underway is a review of state workforce development and unemployment insurance responses to the current recession and the Recovery Act.

6. Measures:

Measure Text	Enrollment
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Number
Explanation of Measure	This measure represents the actual number of participants who enroll in the YouthBuild program. The actual reported below is from the most recent Quarterly Performance Report, covering 10/1/09 – 12/31/09; data is based on the YouthBuild Web-based Case Management and Performance System.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	4,346
Revised Full Program Target	5,898
Targeted ARRA Increment	1,552
Actual	1,480
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Placement in Employment or Education
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	This measure represents the percentage of participants who are in employment or enrolled in post-secondary education or training in the first quarter after exit. This is a federal job training program common measure, which enables the YouthBuild program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment and job training programs. DOL will not be able to determine a targeted ARRA increment because there is no baseline data available for comparison. This is an exit-based performance measure and not enough participants have exited from the ARRA-funded programs to provide results at this time. DOL expects the first exits for ARRA-funded programs to be in

	September 2010 (Program operations were to begin no later than January 2010; programs average 9 months in length). For this measure, participants who exit by September 2010 will need to be placed in employment or enrolled in post-secondary education in the next quarter which ends December 30, 2010. DOL anticipates receiving preliminary data on this measure in February 2011.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	36%
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Attainment of a Degree or Certificate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	This measure represents the percentage of participants who attain a diploma, GED or certificate by the end of the third quarter after exit. A certificate includes any employer-recognized occupational skills certificates that are developed or endorsed by employers and signify the attainment of technical or occupational skills. DOL will not be able to determine a targeted ARRA increment because there is no baseline data available for comparison. This is a long-term performance measure and the grants have not been in existence long enough to provide results at this time. DOL expects the first exits for ARRA-funded programs to be in September 2010 (Program operations were to begin no later than January 2010; programs average 9 months in length). For this measure, participants who exit by September 2010 will have until June 2011 to attain a diploma, GED, or certificate. DOL anticipates receiving preliminary data on this measure in August 2011.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	Baseline
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Literacy or Numeracy Gains
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Increasing

Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	This measure represents the percentage of youth who are basic skills deficient at enrollment who increase their basic educational functioning level in literacy or numeracy. The performance indicator measures the increase in literacy and numeracy skills of participants through a common assessment tool administered at program registration and regular intervals thereafter. According to preliminary data collected on program participants through December 31, 2008, approximately 90% are assessed at below basic skill level. DOL will not be able to determine a targeted ARRA increment because there is no baseline data available for comparison. This is a long-term performance measure and the grants have not been in existence long enough to provide results at this time. Program operations were to begin no later than January 2010. Participants have up to one year from enrollment to make literacy/numeracy gains. DOL anticipates receiving preliminary data on this measure in January 2011.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	30%
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Monitoring Work Environment Safety
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	On-going
Direction of Measure	Decreasing
Unit of Measure	Percent or Number
Explanation of Measure	Monitoring takes place on an on-going basis to ensure the health and safety of YouthBuild program participants. Monitoring under this measure is carried out through a combination of the following: • The number of grant sites reporting over 5 injuries compared to the total number of grant sites and, • The number of OSHA violations identified during monitoring visits Zero sites reported over 5 injuries, and zero OSHA violations were identified during monitoring visits.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	N/A
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Youth Enrollment Level

Measure Type	Output
Measure Frequency	Once
Direction of Measure	N/A
Unit of Measure	Percent by Date
Explanation of Measure	A survey of grantees determines the percentage of grantees that have begun enrolling youth by January 1, 2010. The actual reported below is from the YouthBuild Web-based Case Management and Performance System.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	N/A
Revised Full Program Target	N/A
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	83.5%
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment
Measure Text	Common Measure Performance Rate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Quarterly
Direction of Measure	Decreasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	Quarterly reports will be used to determine the percentage of grantees that demonstrate performance that is 10% or lower than the average performance of all grantees for each of the three common measures. This is a long-term performance measure and the grants have not been in existence long enough to provide results at this time. The time frame for each of the YouthBuild measures varies, with the literacy/numeracy measure having the shortest measurement period. DOL anticipates receiving preliminary data on this measure in January 2011.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	TBD
Revised Full Program Target	N/A
Targeted ARRA Increment	N/A
Actual	TBD
Goal Lead	Grace Kilbane, Administrator, Office of Workforce Investment

7. Transparency and Accountability:

Consistent with the transparency and accountability objectives of the Recovery Act, grantees will provide additional monthly participant information, as necessary and when applicable. This information would be in addition to current quarterly and annual reporting requirements. ETA Competitive Grantee information may be extracted from the relevant case-management system. Competitive Grantee case-management systems include participant-level information including types of services received and outcomes when available. YouthBuild grantees also

provide quarterly recipient reports per Section 1512 of the Recovery Act to FederalReporting.gov. ETA posts monthly, quarterly and the annual summary of program data on the ETA website and the DOL Recovery webpage.
8. Federal Infrastructure Investments:
N/A
9. Barriers to Effective Implementation:
N/A
10. Environmental Review Compliance:
N/A