



**American Recovery & Reinvestment Act [ARRA] of 2009
WORKFORCE EDUCATION & TRAINING PROJECTS**

City of Portland, Multnomah & Washington Counties
09/16/09

FORMULA RECOVERY ACT RESOURCES [for the City of Portland, Washington and Multnomah counties]

Department of Labor [DOL] Workforce Investment Act ARRA Formula Funds: \$8.8 mil

- Adults = \$1.59 mil
- Dislocated Workers = \$3.59 mil
- Youth = \$3.65 mil

Availability: All funds must be expended by June 30, 2011, but it is the intent of Congress and the Administration that the majority of the funds be utilized within the first year of eligibility.

DOL Competitive ARRA Grant Funds [available nationally]: \$750 mil

- \$500 mil for research, labor exchange and job training to prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors
- \$250 mil for job training projects in the healthcare sector

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Workforce Investment Board:

- Establish policy framework and investment priorities
- Fiduciary responsibility for stewardship of resources
- Oversight and evaluation of stimulus projects and results

Worksystems role:

- Regional intermediary for workforce development system
- Convene workforce stakeholders
- Coordinate the region's applications for any competitive DOL stimulus funds
- Administer, manage and report investments and results

KEY EXPECTATIONS OF THE RECOVERY ACT

- **Transparency and Accountability:** Idea is to ensure that anyone can understand how the resources are spent and what results are achieved.
- **Expedited and effective use of funds, with expenditures made concurrently with other DOL resources:** The intent is to greatly increase the capacity of the workforce system to more effectively serve workers in need.
- **Emphasis on training and innovative and invigorated service delivery strategies:** Employment and training funds should be primarily spent on services and training – not administration. Service delivery strategies should both meet the demands of today's economy and result in an improved workforce system for tomorrow's global economy.
- **Emphasis on services for hard-to-serve populations, unemployed, underemployed and laid off workers:** This includes the enhanced use of support services to help people participate in and succeed in training.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ARRA INVESTMENTS

1. Achieve equity in implementation plans and services for WorkSource customers
2. Spend resources in a transparent and accountable way
3. Focus investments on preparing individuals to get and keep quality jobs
4. Develop and expand regional partnerships that implement sectoral employment strategies
5. Target, coordinate and align workforce investments
6. Use the existing publicly funded WorkSource system to post available jobs, recruit applicants, coordinate/deliver services and track results

STIMULUS STRATEGIES & PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR ARRA FUNDING

Strategies:

- Continue to build on foundational workforce system integration and alignment accomplishments in this region and use the existing publicly funded WorkSource system as the mechanism for the delivery of expanded and enhanced skill development services.
- Use the existing publicly funded WorkSource system to post available jobs, recruit applicants, coordinate/deliver skill development services and track results.
- Provide expanded basic academic and computer skills tutoring and remediation and ESL services to more adults and youth to prepare them for successful transition to post-secondary education, occupational training and apprenticeships.
- Provide scholarships and tuition assistance to enable increased numbers of unemployed adults and low income youth to obtain post-secondary occupational training required to qualify for high demand, middle skills, family wage occupations.
- Increase the number of "earn and learn" opportunities, such as subsidized On-the-Job Training.
- Supplement scholarships with a wide range of support services to cover basic needs necessary to help trainees stay in school and complete training and obtain critical certificates and credentials.
- Provide wages for summer internships so that significantly increased numbers of low income youth have the opportunity to earn and learn over the summer months.

Stimulus Training and Education Projects:

- 1. Green Jobs Pipeline:** Provide job seekers [low income, barriered, under-employed adults and laid-off workers] with career guidance, career planning, career exposure, skill development and tuition scholarships for occupational training to prepare for middle skills green jobs that are in demand.
- 2. Retraining and Reemployment Services:** Target and expand job training, re-training, career guidance, tuition scholarships and skill upgrades for workers laid off from jobs in the manufacturing, construction, high tech and finance sectors to transition them into occupations in healthcare, renewable energy, clean tech, bioscience and green building.
- 3. WorkSource Portland Metro Tuition Scholarships:** Increase the number of tuition scholarships for unemployed adults and low income youth to access post-secondary training required to qualify for high demand, middle skills occupations.
- 4. WorkSource Express Centers:** Expand services available to individuals served by WSPM Access Centers through on-site delivery of skill development and employment services by mobile teams of WorkSource staff.
- 5. Support Services for Trainees:** Expand support services for individuals in occupational training to assist them with the costs of child care, transportation, and other basic needs to make it possible for them to successfully complete training.
- 6. Summer Jobs for Youth:** Significantly increase the number of low income youth who will be paid to work in summer internships, receive tutoring/credit recovery and visit college campuses and businesses to explore college and career options.