

STIMULUS UPDATE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON WORKFORCE STIMULUS

How are you able to offer employment opportunities?

The Federal stimulus package is providing us with \$33.6M in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds for Youth (\$14.9M), Adults (\$6.4M) and Dislocated Workers (\$11.1M). We are also expecting to receive \$159M for subsidized employment for CalWORKs participants.

How can I get a stimulus-funded job? Are the jobs only for welfare recipients? What if my teenager needs a summer job?

If you are a CalWORKs participant, you may be referred to take part in the Transitional Subsidized Employment Program (TSE) by your GAIN Worker.

If you are not a CalWORKs participant, you may visit your local One-Stop/Worksource Center to get connected to training and employment resources including WIA programs.

If you are a youth between 14 and 24, you may qualify to participate in summer youth employment through your local One-Stop/Worksource Center.

How can I find a Worksource Center near me?

You can find a WorkSource Center near you by calling (888) 226-6300 or visiting http://www.worksourcecalifornia.com/centers/WS_find_a_center.htm

How can I hire a subsidized stimulus worker?

Register as an employer site! Visit www.employmentstimulus.org or call (310) 970-7700 for more information.

Will the Governor's proposed elimination of CalWORKs affect this program?

Yes, we will not be able to carry out this program if the Governor's proposed elimination of CalWORKs is approved.

Are these new employment programs?

No, the Transitional Subsidized Employment programs and Workforce Investment Act programs are not new. We are able to expand existing programs using stimulus dollars.

Are these people going to be County employees?

No. The City of Hawthorne/South Bay Workforce Investment Board acts as the employer of record. They perform payroll functions, pre-screen candidates, and absorb Workers Compensation liability.

How long can the subsidized workers last?

Up to 12 months depending on when they start. Funding will end on September 30, 2010. Referrals will likely end in March 2010 to allow participants at least 6 months of work experience.

What are the objectives of the subsidized employment program?

To help stimulate the economy in Los Angeles County and to help job seekers get hands-on experience in a real work setting where they can earn wages, develop new skills and enhance existing skills. They can then use those experiences to secure an unsubsidized job.

What are the advantages to employers to participate in this program?

Employers can invigorate their business by temporarily reducing payroll costs. 80% of the cost of a subsidized worker will be covered by federal funds, and the employer will only be responsible for 20% of the overall cost. The 20% can be further reduced by an employer's supervision and training costs. This will provide employers with some much-needed assistance during these tough economic times and will also prepare subsidized workers to be far better prepared for future unsubsidized jobs that a rebounding economy can be expected to produce.

What parts of the economy are you targeting?

All sectors are being targeted, the public sector – including County departments and other public agencies, nonprofits (including community and faith-based organizations) and the private sector. It is important to note that a chief requirement for all employers wishing to participate is that subsidized workers cannot displace existing employees or take up promotional positions that would otherwise be open to the employer's existing workforce. All employee protection measures will be observed.

How are job seekers matched with opportunities in various companies and agencies?

For subsidized employment, the Department of Public Social Services, working in partnership with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board and a strong coalition of specialized placement agencies, called WorkSource Centers, will pre-screen candidates and match them with available openings. A similar process, involving the Department of Community and Senior Services, the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board and participating WorkSource Centers will be used for the summer youth program and to serve non-CalWORKs adults.

What results are you seeking?

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is determined to take actions that will help job seekers acquire those skills and experiences that will enable them to achieve sustained, long-term employment success for 21st century jobs. This effort also seeks to help local businesses, in every sector of the economy, to come through the current tough economic climate stronger and more competitive when recovery will be in full swing. While taking these actions, we will ensure the

existing workforce is not adversely affected. Therefore, we expect this to be a classic example of a win-win situation, and we intend to make the most of it.