

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 20-09
	DATE December 9, 2009

TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS

FROM: JANE OATES /s/
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Release and Availability of ETA Occasional Paper 2009-20: *Characteristics of the Community-Based Job Training Grants: Interim Report*

1. Purpose. To announce the release and availability of ETA Occasional Paper 2009-20: *Characteristics of the Community-Based Job Training Grants: Interim Report*

2. Background. The Community-Based Job Training Grants (CBJTG) focus on building the capacity of community colleges to provide training to workers for high growth, high demand industries. Over 200 grants were issued in three rounds between 2005 and 2008. A fourth round, issued in 2009, is not part of this evaluation. As of December 31, 2008, 211 grants had been awarded. A majority of the grants target two industries: health care (43 percent) and advanced manufacturing (18 percent). Roughly 70 percent of the CBJTG went to community colleges. Other educational institutions, mainly four-year institutions, make up an additional 23 percent of the grants, the remaining 6 percent are workforce agencies.

This is the first report from the evaluation of CBJTG that is being conducted by the Urban Institute with subcontractors Capitol Research Corporation and Johns Hopkins University. The evaluation began in July 2008 with the purpose of documenting the different models and projects that are operating with grant funds, examining and assessing the implementation of grant-funded projects, and identifying innovative features and potential promising strategies. Subsequent reports from the evaluation will be based on a survey of all grantees and site visits to a small sample of grantees. The reports will examine the implementation of the grants, innovations developed by the grantees, and challenges grantees faced and addressed.

3. Publication Description. This report presents information based on a review of documents (solicitations for grant applications, statements of work, and grantees' quarterly reports) available through the end of 2008. The information provides a comprehensive description of the grantees and their grant-related activities.

Following are some of the report's findings:

1. The number of organizations that grantees identify as existing partners ranges from 3 to 126, with an average of about 18. The most common types of partners are employers and workforce boards.
2. Most grantees plan to target multiple groups. Seventy-eight percent plan to target youth in high school; 30 percent report they will target dislocated workers; 30 percent will target entry-level workers.
3. Grants range from \$500,000 to \$3.6 million, averaging \$1.8 million. Seventy-one percent are between \$1 million and \$2 million. Ninety-seven percent of grantees report some planned leveraged resources. Community colleges plan to leverage more resources than other types of grantees. The workforce investment system is the most prevalent source for leveraged resources.
4. Grantees' training-related goals include increased enrollment levels, graduation and completion goals, and employment and earnings. Capacity-building goals include hiring additional faculty and/or program staff, bolstering career awareness and recruitment efforts, developing or expanding student aid programs, expanding the number of training slots, developing new instructional techniques, and improving access for under-served populations.

4. Inquires. To view an abstract of this publication as well as to download the full report, visit the ETA Occasional Paper Series Web site at: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm>.