



## No Worker Left Behind Funding August 27, 2009

### Current Status of No Worker Left Behind

- No Worker Left Behind is going strong. In the initiative's first two years (August 1, 2007 – July 31, 2009), 88,691 Michigan workers went back to school through this program.
- No Worker Left Behind is an overwhelming success. We are well on our way to surpassing Governor Granholm's original goal of enrolling 100,000 workers into training in three years.
- This fall will be no different. We expect enrollment this fall semester to be bigger than ever.
- No Worker Left Behind is causing everything about worker retraining to accelerate in Michigan. Thirty-five percent more workers enrolled in the program's second year than in the first, and educational institutions added or updated 29% more programs.
- Last month, President Obama chose Michigan to announce his new community college initiative and cited No Worker Left Behind as a model for the nation.

### NWLB funding

- No Worker Left Behind is *not* out of money. Tens of thousands of NWLB participants will be continuing their training and thousands more will be beginning training this fall.
- No Worker Left Behind funds are allocated to 25 different Michigan Works Agencies (MWAs) across the state. The funding situation is quite varied among the 25 MWAs.
- None have actually spent all available funds. Most still have funds to enroll new clients in training as soon as they complete the steps necessary and the appropriate class is ready to start.
- One MWA, Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA), which covers Monroe County and Wayne County besides Detroit, has "obligated" virtually all current funds for training for this semester.

- Several other MWAs have “obligated” virtually all current funds when you consider not only this semester but the full training program current clients are pursuing (which can be up to two years).
- DELEG is working to obtain additional targeted funding to assist the areas facing the greatest crunch.

### NWLB Wait Lists

- A few MWAs are putting so many workers into training that they are getting to the point where all of their current funds are spoken for. However, they will all continue to put people on waiting lists as we seek new funds to expand the program.
- No Worker Left Behind has never been able to enroll everyone that is interested into school immediately. No Worker Left Behind has a first come, first served policy and various MWAs have had waiting lists for No Worker Left Behind for much of the last two years.
- Overall, 9,108 Michiganders were on waiting lists at the end of July. Since 5,348 of those people were waiting for training to start, the list may decrease somewhat as people begin training in the fall semester. August and September represent our biggest enrollment period of the year. Waiting lists may increase again after that.
- We encourage folks not only to get on the wait list but to utilize the many other services MWAs provide.
- While people are on wait lists, MWAs can provide them with a number of other career services, including job counseling, resume assistance, practice interviewing and much more.