



Region 3

Applicant: The Job Force Board

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Partners: Michigan Works! The Job Force Board
Western Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!
Eastern Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!

Counties Included: Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Menominee, Dickinson, Marquette, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, Chippewa

Regional Highlights:

Wage & Benefit Survey

The Region 3 project will begin with a comprehensive wage and benefit survey to supplement publicly available labor market information. The localized wage and benefit data provides valuable information to existing companies to help them identify whether their current wages and benefits align with marketplace conditions. This detailed data also offers essential labor costs perspectives to new businesses interested in potential development or expansion.

UPEDA

The 21st Century Workforce initiative provides the opportunity to synthesize the efforts of successful partnerships and initiatives that have been in existence for a number of years. In 1999, economic developers, businesses, utilities, government, and workforce investment boards formed the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance (UPEDA). Since its inception, the UPEDA has arranged over 500 business retention interviews. The 21st Century Workforce funding will be used to enhance and expand the UPEDA through integration of an employer contact tracking model, additional cross-training of partners' staff, and the support of non-manufacturing based industries such as tourism, leisure and retail services, and healthcare.

Synchronist Business Barometer

Region 3 also plans on undertaking an expansion of the area's UP Synchronist Business Barometer database system to provide alerts to workforce professionals about potential economic issues that may trigger layoffs or plant closures. The partners of the UPEDA will act on the information provided by the database to determine what resources need to be pooled in order to offer appropriate assistance to struggling businesses.