

No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) Boilerplate Report

This boilerplate report is being submitted in accordance with Section 831(2) of Public Act 130 of 2009. This report provides an update concerning the distribution of the \$4.5 million allocated to NWLB.

Given the state budget climate at the end of 2009, the Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth (DELEG) deemed it prudent to delay any distribution of this funding until after January's revenue estimating conference. Some or all of this funding could potentially have been rescinded as a result of the information shared at the conference, as happened the previous year. Thankfully, January's revenue estimating conference turned out more positively than anticipated. As a result, DELEG has been moving forward aggressively since January with plans to distribute this funding. As of March 1, 2010, DELEG has not distributed any of this funding to either Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs) or community colleges; however, we anticipate beginning to distribute this funding in April using the following three strategies:

1) Fund the most successful NWLB Adult Learning Demonstration Grants for an additional year

Key Partners:

Community colleges, MWAs, literacy councils

Summary:

In early 2009, NWLB awarded \$2.5 million in Adult Learning Demonstration Grants to 10 regional partnerships to develop programs that equip adult learners with the skills necessary to enter career pathways in healthcare, renewable energy and other sectors, and postsecondary education or training programs. DELEG staff will conduct field visits in April and May 2010 to all recipients with well-defined criteria to identify projects most worthy of additional funding for expansion or continuation. After we assess each grant's performance, we will renew three to five grants for an additional year. Criteria will include outcomes data, partnerships developed, and the quality of curriculum and services provided. Estimated number of individuals to be served: 250.

2) Support Incumbent Worker Training needs of newly formed Michigan Skills Alliances (MiSAs)

Key Partners:

MWAs, employers, local training providers

Summary:

New federal restrictions on funding incumbent worker training under the Workforce Investment Act have resulted in a significant drop in our abilities to help companies utilize this source of training. Yet Michigan can save jobs and improve workers' careers through such training. GF/GP funding will provide a new and more nimble source of funding for the MiSAs. Estimated number of individuals to be served: 500.

3) Grow entrepreneurship in Michigan

Key Partners:

MEDC, community colleges, MWAs, community based organizations, local economic development organizations

Summary:

Entrepreneurship is a key component of the NWLB initiative and its full potential has yet to be realized. We will use the funds to provide entrepreneurs with the tools and support necessary to be successful in Michigan's new economy and advance the Council for Labor and Economic Growth's recommendations on entrepreneurship. Estimated number of individuals to be served: 200.