

PY 2012 WIA 503 Incentive Awards State Application Summaries

State	Contact	Award Amount	Proposed Activities
Georgia	Kate Russell Finance Director, Governor’s Office of Workforce Development 75 Fifth Street, NW Suite 845 Atlanta, GA 30308 Telephone: 404-317-8840 Email: KRussell@Georgia.gov	\$1,428,125	<p>Grant funds awarded to Georgia will be divided among the Governor’s Office of Workforce Development (GOWD) and the Technical College System of Georgia Office of Adult Education (TCSG-OAE). The agencies will collaborate to implement the following initiatives:</p> <p><u>“Georgia JumpStart” Program Expansion</u> TCSG-OAE will expand its “Georgia JumpStart” program to prepare low-level learners for employment in GOWD-identified industries as they complete their GED® credential, along with a curriculum in digital literacy skills and professional soft skills training. Additional opportunities may be provided to these students through WIA enrollment, including job shadowing and internship opportunities within high-demand careers and industries. This program will develop new and innovative strategies of reaching the target population, to identify potential new best practices for engaging non-traditional participants.</p> <p><u>Go Build Georgia Apprenticeship Pilot Program</u> With the funds made available through the PY12 Incentive Grant, Georgia will develop an apprenticeship pilot project with the long-term goals of increasing National Registered Apprenticeships in Georgia, specifically those within the skilled trades. Georgia will identify and enroll several small pilot cohorts of WIA-eligible participants to begin apprenticeships. These opportunities will seek to target dislocated workers and non-traditional populations, such as veterans, under-served populations, and those who may have disabilities. This apprenticeship model program will build upon the success of the PY11 Incentive Grant program known as “Fast Track Training.” The accelerated model and curriculum developed through that program will help guide the educational strategies for the apprenticeship pilot program. This model may also be utilized to construct pre-apprenticeship educational opportunities for youth and other interested participants. Georgia anticipates that the majority of the funds associated with this portion of</p>

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			<p>the incentive grant will go towards establishing the apprenticeship program, developing the program curriculum, and assisting the industry sector with paying for the customized training.</p> <p><u>Expanding Georgia’s Accelerating Opportunity program to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport</u></p> <p>Accelerating Opportunity is an innovative strategy intended to reduce the number of working age adults without a high school diploma by getting them into the job market as skilled workers at a faster pace. This initiative allows adult education students to dually enroll at TCSG colleges to earn their GED and college credential(s) while simultaneously by providing them with supportive services and integrated career pathways that lead to marketable, stackable, credit-bearing certificates and degrees leading to career and college readiness. Ultimately, this initiative will drive economic recovery for individuals and communities by substantially increasing the number of work-ready adults in jobs that provide family sustaining wages.</p>
Idaho	<p>Susan Simmons Deputy Director Idaho Department of Labor 317 W. Main Street Boise, ID 83735 Telephone: 208-332-3570, Ext. 3361 Fax: 208-947-0049 E-mail: susan.simmons@labor.idaho.gov</p>	\$845,837	<p>Planned use of grant funds awarded to Idaho is described within the project listed below:</p> <p><u>Continuation of the Statewide Microcertification System Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education (DPTE)</u></p> <p>DPTE proposes to use these funds to continue the development and implementation of the statewide microcertification system (Idaho SkillStack). The funds will provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. System design modifications and reports development. 2. Integration of the Idaho SkillStack system with the Department of Labor Idaho Career Information System. 3. Support for implementation of the Idaho SkillStack system.

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			<p><u>Continuation of the Integrated Transition and Retention Program in FY16</u> Adult Basic Education Program in the Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education Idaho proposes to use \$83,580 of WIA Title V PY 2013 Incentive funds to expand the Integrated Transition and Retention Program beginning July 1, 2015 which increases transition into technical programs, further education and training, and improve technical and academic completion. This may include expanding the number of classes offered across the state, as well as improving those classes piloted in the first two years of the program. Our third year of the project will also explore options for sustaining the programs locally and integrating these programs into the on-going offerings at each institution.</p> <p><u>Statewide Implementation of the College and Career Readiness Standards</u> Idaho proposes to use \$198,365 of the WIA Title V PY 2013 Incentive funds to support the first two years of the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) initiative. The integration of CCRS into adult education programs is intended to provide all adult students with the opportunity to be prepared for postsecondary training without needing remediation. Support in the first two years will primarily include training and initial implementation (i.e., curriculum review/alignment committee, local professional development, content training, and evaluation. We will also supplement the cost of purchasing new resources, such as textbooks, workbooks, and other instructional materials aligned with the new standards).</p> <p><u>Continuation of Business Process Analysis</u> Idaho Department of Labor The Idaho Department of Labor, in relationship with Boise State University’s TechHelp staff, proposes to use \$102,000 of WIA Title V PY</p>

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			<p>2013 Incentive funds to institute a process improvement project using the “Lean” techniques developed. Employees and managers will learn-by-doing in each phase of the project to identify and incorporate new efficiencies into their future state.</p> <p><u>Customer Relations Management Tool Enhancement and Training</u> Idaho Department of Labor The Idaho Department of Labor proposes to use WIA Title V PY 2013 Incentive funds to enhance its Customer Relations Management (CRM) system’s capabilities and to train staff on the new features. These enhancements along with the training necessary to gain the knowledge to utilize the tool will be supported by these funds.</p> <p><u>Building Staff Capacity - Training and Technical Assistance Series</u> Idaho Department of Labor The Idaho Department of Labor proposes to use WIA Title V PY 2013 Incentive funds to support a statewide conference for front-line and management staff in the One-Stop system to come together to discuss best practices, particularly those related to integrated service strategies, focusing specifically on demand-driven workforce initiatives. The conference would further the goals of improving coordination among workforce system partners, leading to more satisfied customers of the system.</p>
Indiana	Scott B. Sanders Commissioner Indiana Department of Workforce Development 10 North Senate Ave Indianapolis, IN 46204 Telephone: 317-232-7676 Email: sbsanders@dwd.IN.gov	\$1,130,999	<p>The State of Indiana proposes utilizing the funds made available through its incentive grant for two primary purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand work-based learning opportunities to individuals engaged in WIA Title II Adult Education programs; and • Expand access to high quality workforce credential <i>and</i> work-based learning opportunity to high-risk in-school WIA Title I-B students. <p>The State of Indiana would achieve these purposes by enhancing two programs that are currently well-established in the State: WorkINdiana</p>

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			<p>and Jobs for America’s Graduates.</p> <p><u>WorkINDiana</u> Funding made available from this incentive grant would allow the State to enroll more WIA Title II participants in adult education programs to simultaneously complete WIA Title I-B training from the WorkINDiana certifications. Incentive funding would also be utilized to pair the WorkINDiana certification with an associated paid work experience.</p> <p><u>Jobs for America’s Graduates (JAG)</u> Funding from the incentive grant would allow the State to enhance its services to JAG participants by providing WorkINDiana certification training to JAG students and pairing the certification training with a meaningful paid work experience. Eligible participants, who as JAG students are already enrolled in WIA Title I-B youth programs, would be provided with WorkINDiana vouchers, and upon nearing completion of the WorkINDiana certification would be provided with paid work experience in a job that is related to the certification.</p>
Maine	Garret Oswald Director, State Workforce Investment Board Maine Department of Labor 120 State House Station Augusta, ME 04332 Telephone: 207-621-5087 Fax: 207-287-5292 Email: garret.j.oswald@maine.gov	\$819,433	<p>The State of Maine proposes to utilize the WIA Incentive Grant award to fund some of the Industry Partnership Assistance Collaborative (IPAC) activity. IPAC activity provides support to regional industry partnerships and eligible applicants, and must be used to provide training or the ability for local, state or regional industry partnerships to ensure employees in this state are directed toward and trained in the high-skill, high-demand, high-wage jobs.</p> <p><u>Industry Partnerships Grant Program</u> <u>Maine Department of Labor (MDOL)</u> The MDOL will administer WIA incentive funds once the Governor’s IPAC develops criteria for sub-grantee applications and the awards have been announced. Sub-grantee projects must support regional cooperatives that design demand-driven industry partnerships with businesses,</p>

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			<p>education and the workforce development system. The number of sub-grantees and the award amounts will depend on the number of successful applicants.</p> <p><u>Literacy and Numeracy Projects</u> <u>Maine Department of Education</u> With these funds, Maine Adult Education proposes to follow two nationally recognized programs (Reading Apprenticeship program to integrate literacy instruction and subject area instruction and the National Numeracy Project) to address our student needs. The Reading Apprenticeship Program trains teachers to create classrooms that support four interacting dimensions of learning: Social, Personal, Cognitive and Knowledge-Building.</p> <p>The Adult Numeracy Project is an intensive evidence-based program in effective numeracy instruction for adults. This approach focuses on increases the effectiveness of math instruction in the classroom by: increasing the teachers’ knowledge of math content, their comfort with math content, improvement in instructional practices, and increased understanding of state math content standards.</p> <p><u>Bidders’ Conference and Sector Summit</u> <u>Maine Departments of Labor and Education</u> The agencies will prepare a Bidders’ Conference to provide technical assistance and guidance on the competitive grant application process. This conference will be a unique opportunity for applicants to network with service providers as they develop their regional industry partnerships, which aligns well with the WIA State Plan’s industry partnerships and collaborative use of resources across Maine.</p> <p>The agencies will prepare a Sector Summit to help further industry partnerships beyond the life of the PY12 Incentive Grant funds. This</p>

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			<p>summit will educate businesses and the general public about the success of industry partnerships. Sub-grant awardees can also utilize the event as an outlet to showcase their career pathway programs and offer further facilitation and consulting services to start-up industry partnership conveners.</p> <p>The agencies will also initiate a communication strategy to engage state and regional partnerships with the goals of generating support and encouraging the leveraging of their respective resources with this sub-grant opportunity. The MDOL will produce webpages for Maine.gov to promote industry partnerships in the state. These pages will be available for use as a reference in the development of future sector strategies and housing the annual report, data tools and analysis.</p> <p><i>Industry Data and Analysis</i> <i>Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI)</i> CWRI will be retained to provide data, analysis and technical assistance to the IPAC and applicants on an as needed basis. Estimates for data for a typical industry partnership are \$10,000.</p> <p><i>Industry Partnership Admin</i> <i>Maine Department of Labor</i> Ten percent of the incentive will be used for administration of the project through June 30, 2016, including a program manager to facilitate sub-grantee contracts and financials, data management and processing, federal reporting, and similar functions depending on activities required by the industry partnership proposal.</p>
Oklahoma	Deidre D. Myers Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development Oklahoma Department of Commerce 900 North Stiles Avenue Oklahoma, OK 73104	\$911,238	The WIA Incentive Grant award will provide resources to support Oklahoma’s interest in enhancing Career Pathways and Career Development in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and career planning. The project target: 1) minority youth with an emphasis on STEM and 2) K-12, and adult students’ knowledge

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	Telephone: 405-815-5383 Email: deidre_myers@okcommerce.gov		<p>and skill in making informed career choices and to create education plans to be prepared for those careers.</p> <p>Funds will be used to fund a Request for Proposal process to encourage each of the nine local Workforce Investment Board areas to develop innovative programming that will stimulate minority youth involvement in STEM related education and career awareness. Additional, funds will be utilized to focus on a “career development pilot” opportunity that assures students have the knowledge skills to make informed career choices and to created education plans to be prepared for those careers.</p> <p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Exploration • Career Goal • Career Maturity • Individualized Career and Education Plan
Pennsylvania	Julia K. Hearthway Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry 1700 Labor & Industry Building 651 Boas Street Harrisburg, PA 17121 Telephone: 717-705-2630 Fax: 717-787-8826 Email: jhearthway@pa.gov	\$1,438,783	<p>The commonwealth proposes to use WIA Incentive Grant funds in support of the following initiatives:</p> <p><u>Technology for Adult Basic and Family Literacy Programs</u> A competitive program that will allow adult basic and family literacy programs to purchase technology such as PCs, laptops, tables, and routers. Technology purchased through this competitive process must be integrated into foundation skills instruction designed to prepare adults to earn high school equivalency credential, transition to employment or successfully enroll in postsecondary education or training.</p> <p><u>GED® Practice Test Vouchers</u> A program that will provide vouchers to eligible students who wish to take the GED Ready™ Practice Test. The vouchers will be used to assist staff and student in adult basic education program in prepared for and</p>

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			<p>addressing readiness for the successful completion of the 2014 GED® test, which leads to the Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma. GED Ready™ will better ensure that students take the 2014 GED® test when they are prepared to pass, thereby saving them time and money.</p> <p><u>Career Counselors in Schools</u> Using a portion of incentive grant dollars, the commonwealth proposes to fund a career counselor program in four Pennsylvania school districts that are participating in First Lady Susan Corbett’s dropout prevention initiative known as Opening Doors. Career counselors will be recruited and assigned to each of the school districts to provide services over the two-year grant period. Career counselors will work in high school and middle school in the respective school districts on a full-time basis. Grant funds will also be used to provide training to career counselors on the use of available career exploration tools, assessment tools, SAT/ACT preparation tools, and financial aid options.</p>
South Carolina	Rebecca Battle-Bryant Assistant Executive Director South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce 1550 Gadsden Street PO Box 995 Columbia, SC 29201 Telephone: 803-737-0387 Email: RBBryant@dew.sc.gov	\$1,079,016	<p>This federal incentive grant opportunity will allow South Carolina to continue building on lessons learned from the QuickSkills project and expand its efforts to address basic education deficiencies, the middle skills gap, and soft skills needs through the <i>Learn2Earn</i> initiative.</p> <p><u>Career Pathways and Career Awareness</u> Adult students will gain their GED, and both, high school and adult education students will receive the National Career Readiness Certificate and have an opportunity to receive college credit or industry recognized credential. In addition to creating career pathways, the goal is to raise career awareness amongst high school students, educators, guidance counselors, parents, and adults on occupations and careers critical to South Carolina’s economy. Through this project, the SC Department of Education’s Office of Career and Technology Education proposes to also pilot a simulated workplace environment in at least two schools in the targeted area. A simulated workplace is a way of documenting student</p>

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			<p>knowledge and skill sets in an authentic workplace environment while replicating proper business and industry processes and procedures.</p> <p><u>Soft Skills Curriculum</u> The Learn 2 Earn project will provide an opportunity to develop and implement a uniformed, statewide, classroom-based soft skills curriculum for high schoolers and adults. Funds are to be used primarily for development or adaptation of an existing soft skills curriculum that can be implemented statewide within the classroom and as an online, interactive tool.</p>
Texas	Rebecca Schroeder Program Specialist Texas Workforce Commission 101 East 15 th Street Austin, TX 78778 Telephone: 512-936-3582 Fax: 512-936-3420 Email: rebecca.schroeder@twc.state.tx.us	\$2,230,834	<p>The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) plans to use one-half of the WIA incentive funds to support workforce initiatives focused on veterans and long-term unemployed individuals, and the other half of the funds to support initiatives focused on Adult Education and Literacy program. The descriptions of the projects are provided below.</p> <p><u>Veterans Recruitment to Texas Platform</u> This initiative will support the development of a platform, aligning services currently provided and linking to other resources and support services, for recruiting veterans to Texas by showcasing the jobs and educational opportunities available to veterans in Texas. The platform will include a <i>Texas Wide Open for Veterans</i> web presence. This initiative will be designed as a one-stop shop specifically targeted at providing information and resources to personnel leaving the military and making decisions regarding permanent residence. This initiative is expected to improve employment outcomes for Texas veterans who are preparing to rejoin civilian life, servicemembers who plan to enter the civilian workforce, and veterans and servicemembers that may be interested in educational opportunities and jobs in Texas.</p> <p><u>Employment Strategies for Long-Term Unemployed</u> This initiative will support the development and delivery of services</p>

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			<p>specifically designed to assist long-term unemployed individuals with reconnecting to employment. To address the specific challenges faced by long-term unemployed individual, TWC will develop and share results of innovative strategies that focus resources on helping these individuals gain and retain employment. This initiative is expected to improve employment outcomes for long-term unemployed Texas individuals. The strategies under this initiative will reconnect Texas individuals to employment and assist them in the transition into the Texas workforce.</p> <p><u>Work-Based Integrated Education and Training Projects with Texas Employers</u> This initiative will provide funds for Boards to facilitate the expansion of employer-based adult education and literacy sites. The WIA incentive funds will support the provision of technical skills training at employer worksites that are aligned and integrated with specific workplace-related literacy skills for lower-skilled workers or workers with limited English proficiency. By providing funding for work-based education and training, the state will help Texas employers remain competitive with skilled workers and provide employees with opportunities to advance, earn a higher wage, and remain employed.</p> <p><u>Integrated Education and Training Career Pathways Programs</u> This initiative will provide funds to facilitate the expansion of demonstrated Integrated Education and Training (IET) career pathway models. The funds will be used to deliver the technical-training portion of IET programs in partnership with AEL providers that will leverage AEFLA funds to provide the literacy skills portion of the project. These incentive funds will focus on the continued expansion of IET models, including work-based programs, I-BEST, and Texas’ own, Accelerate Texas. This initiative will allow Texas to leverage its past legislative investments that have provided evidence-based IET models in skills training for Texas’ underprepared workforce. IETs allows adult student</p>

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			to stay motivated as they can see the immediate relevance of what they are learning and therefore, keeps them engaged in the programs.