



News Release

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State receives grant to boost job training, placement services for veterans

INDIANAPOLIS (June 30, 2006) -- The Indiana Department of Workforce Development was awarded a grant of \$750,000 from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide an array of career and job services to veterans residing in a 25-county area of the state.

Under the grant, the state will provide outreach, intake, pre-enrollment assessment, job placement service, job training, counseling, mentoring, supportive services and other assistance to Hoosier veterans. The grant supplements services already available to Hoosier veterans from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Department of Workforce Development.

“The goal of this program is to serve 375 veterans and ultimately place 244 into meaningful employment,” said Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development. “Our veterans have served the country well, and they deserve all the help we can provide to help place them into the workforce with meaningful jobs.”

Indiana is one of twelve states receiving a Veterans Workforce Investment Program grant. The federal program provides funding to meet the training and employment needs of veterans with service-connected disabilities, veterans who have significant barriers to employment, veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign, and recently separated veterans. The two-year grant provides funds for the first year, with second year funding available if the state meets performance standards and funds are available.

Funds were awarded on a competitive basis to state and local workforce investment boards, local public agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

The grant was awarded to the state for three economic growth regions, serving central, north central and north east Indiana. Counties to be served under the grant include Adams, Allen, Boone, DeKalb, Elkhart, Fulton, Grant, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Huntington, Johnson, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, Noble, St. Joseph, Shelby, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, and Whitley.

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve worker skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners

with Indiana's 26 WorkOne employment centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service. For more information visit the agency website at www.workforce.IN.gov