

GREEN JOBS INNOVATION FUND

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req
Activity Appropriation	0	0	0	0	50,000	50,000

Introduction

The Green Jobs Innovation Fund, authorized as Pilot and Demonstration Projects under Section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, supports competitive grant opportunities to help workers receive job training in green industry sectors and occupations and access green career pathways.

The proposed initiative is designed to complement and extend the competitive grant awards made through the funding available for training in high growth and emerging industry sectors under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is considering several strategies to help workers access green training and green career pathways, including: (1) enhanced pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship programs in green industry sectors and occupations; (2) competitive grants for green career pathways that include a focus on developing education opportunities in green industry sectors and occupations; and, (3) incentivizing innovative partnerships that effectively connect community-based organizations in underserved communities with the workforce investment system to better serve targeted populations through a new focus on career advancement in green industry sectors.

In Program Year 2010, baseline data will be collected on new performance measures. To measure performance, the program will utilize the set of common performance measures for employment and training programs. The use of common measures enables ETA to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the workforce investment system – how many people got a job, how many stayed employed, and what were their earnings. The definitions of the measures are as follows:

Entered Employment Rate - Percent of participants employed in the first quarter after exit;
Employment Retention Rate - Percent of participants employed in the first quarter after program exit still employed in the second and third quarters after exit; and
Average Earnings - Reported as the average earnings in the second and third quarters after exit.

Funding Mechanism

These funds will be awarded competitively through a Solicitation for Grant Applications.

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FY 2010

ETA is considering a range of approaches for the \$50 million requested for the Green Jobs Innovation Fund. Options under consideration include:

Enhanced Green Apprenticeship Programs. Competitive grants could be awarded to expand and recognize green pre-apprenticeship programs and link these programs to Registered Apprenticeships, community colleges, and other qualified training programs. Building off of green Registered Apprenticeships funded through the Recovery Act, the pre-apprenticeships would target underrepresented and disadvantaged populations. The grants could facilitate agreements between pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors to facilitate the “transfer” of pre-apprenticeship experience and learning into “credit” towards the completion of a Registered Apprenticeship program; much like articulation agreements used between Registered Apprenticeship programs and institutions of higher learning. Recognizing this transfer of experience would facilitate entry into Registered Apprenticeship programs, particularly by underrepresented and disadvantaged populations. In conjunction with these grants, ETA is also examining ways to “certify” the pre-apprenticeship programs that meet the Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors’ minimum requirements for participants to enter Registered Apprenticeship.

Competitive Grants for Green Career Pathways. These competitive grants would promote green career pathways through post-secondary education and training to reach low-income communities, persons with limited English proficiency, and other under-skilled young adults and adults. These awards would be given to partnerships among community-based organizations, workforce investment boards, community colleges, and adult education providers to provide training to students from entry-level through community college level training in green careers. Grantees would work to define the pathways into community college education for low-income, limited English proficient, and other under-skilled young adults and adults and provide participants tuition assistance and additional supports that will allow participants to attend training, such as transportation and child care. The training could focus on community college and career and technical education training models, including on-the-job training and integrated “earning and learning” models that open career pathways for low-income individuals.

Innovative Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations Connecting Targeted Populations to Green Jobs. Competitive grants could incentivize innovative partnerships that connect community-based organizations in underserved communities, the workforce system, and employers to promote career advancement opportunities in green industry sectors and occupations. The grants would provide training in green job skills to targeted populations, including individuals with limited English proficiency, disconnected youth, high school drop-outs, and people with disabilities. This training will help ensure that disadvantaged populations are better connected to One Stop Services, including on the job training, Registered Apprenticeship programs, post-secondary level training, and integrated “earning and learning” models.

ETA plans to use the requested funds to award to approximately 25-60 grants and expects that 8,300 participants will receive training.

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These are new initiatives that are not accompanied by legislative proposals.

FY 2009

This is a new initiative for FY 2010.

Recovery Act

The Recovery Act provided \$750 million for a program of competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging sectors, with an emphasis on green industries.

FY 2008

This is a new initiative for FY 2010.

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WORKLOAD SUMMARY (Dollars in Thousands)			
	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Target	FY 2010 Target
Green Jobs Innovation Funds			
Participants	--	--	8,300
Cost per Participant			\$6,024
Budget Activity Total	--	--	\$50,000

The Green Jobs grants do not run on a program year or fiscal year cycle. The data collected on these grants will allow ETA to review the results in 12 month cycles.

*Target reflects estimated cumulative results for grants planned as of June 2010

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PERFORMANCE GOAL INDICATORS

Performance Indicator	PY 2007		PY 2008	PY 2009	PY 2010
	Target	Result	Target	Target	Target
Total Enrolled in Training	--	--	--	8,300	---
Total Completed Training	--	--	--	Baseline	---
Percent of participants employed in the first quarter after exit.	--	--	--	---	Baseline
Percent of participants employed in the first quarter after exit still employed in the second and third quarters after exit.				---	Baseline
Average earnings in the second and third quarters after exit.				---	Baseline
Baseline(s): Baseline year for completed training is PY2009 and Common Measure outcomes is PY 2010.					
Data Source(s): Grantee Reports to be submitted to DOL.					
Comments:					

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BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	50,000	50,000
Total		0	0	0	50,000	50,000

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CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes		
Built-In		
To Provide For:		
Built-Ins Subtotal		0
Net Program		50,000
Direct FTE		0
	Estimate	FTE
Program Increase	50,000	0