

Workforce Development Update, April, 2009

HOT NEWS!

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): The latest news regarding the MA workforce system's strategies to develop initiatives for education and training involves the request for guidance from the federal government on the potential for contracting with ABE/ESOL providers. The question to be clarified is whether ABE/ESOL providers must be certified under the Individual Training Account (ITA) system in order to be eligible to provide services under the ARRA. Stay tuned for clarification on this issue. Some regions have worked with ABE/ESOL providers to secure this certification.

NOW AVAILABLE!! UPDATED CURRICULUM GUIDE

The newly revised Guide on Integrating Career Awareness into the ABE & ESOL Classroom, developed by Martha Oesch and Carol Bower, is now available on the SABES website. The National Center on College Transitions funded the revision of the guide to include more information on the topic of transition to college. Available for download and on CD! www.sabes.org.

GRANT Opportunity!

Bridging the Opportunity Gap: DYS Career Readiness, Vocational, and Employability Pathway Initiative for Project Proposals – Commonwealth Corporation in conjunction with the MA Department of Youth Services is inviting proposals from youth-serving organizations, local Workforce Investment Boards, and One-Stop Career Centers to undertake activities that create opportunities that provide “bridges” to employment services for youth in the custody of the Department of Youth Services.

Workforce System Information on Language Services Assistance for Limited English Proficiency Customers

For information about language assistance guidelines provided by the Department of Workforce Development to the workforce system, read the new Issuance of 4/3/09 at <http://www.massworkforce.org/Issuances/InfoIssuance2009.htm>

Spring ABE-LWIB Representatives Meetings with Regional ABE Program Directors:

Central MA: Tuesday, April 14
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Quinsigamond Community College (Downtown Campus)
100 Front Street, 2nd floor
Worcester
508-751-7903

Southeast MA: Friday, April 17, 2009
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Brockton Public Schools
211 Crescent Street
Brockton, MA (report to office upon arrival)
508-580-7475

Northeast MA: Thursday, April 30, 2009
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Lowell Public Schools
408 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA (report to office upon arrival)
978-937-8989

Western MA: Friday, May 1, 2009

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Holyoke Community College
Kittredge Center, Room 226
303 Homestead Street
Holyoke, MA
413-552-2334

P-21 NEWS

Find **Pathways to Success by 21** Information at <http://resources21.org>.

Ready to Succeed - Regional Initiatives to Cultivate Education and Career Options to enhance community-wide drop-out prevention activities will be held across the state:

- **April 16**, 8:00 a.m.– 12:30 p.m. Hoagland Pincus Center, UMass Worcester
- **April 30**, 1:30 – 6:00 p.m., UMass Dartmouth, ATMC Center, Dartmouth
- **June 11**, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Holyoke Community College, Holyoke

Co-sponsors include the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Commonwealth Corporation. To register, go to <http://doe.mass.edu/conference/?ConferenceID=616>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Commonwealth Workforce Coalition and SkillWorks present a session on The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act on Monday, April 13th at the International Institute of Boston at 1 Milk Street, Boston from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. RSVP to Rebecca Harris by April 9th at rharris@cedac.org. Space is limited to 50 people; two staff per organization.

The Money Conference: Rebounding from a Recession~ Register Today!

A project of State Treasurer Tim Cahill; REGISTER TODAY! Space is limited.
<http://www.themoneyconference.com>; Saturday, April 25, 2009, Western New England College, Springfield, MA, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Key Note Speaker: Dee Lee, a nationally recognized Certified Financial Planner. Special Guest Economist: Michael Goodman, Ph.D.

Massachusetts Workforce Board Association holds its annual meeting in Williamstown at the Orchards Hotel on May 28 – 29. The theme of the meeting is Massachusetts Regional Strategies Initiative – One Year Later. If you have concerns about ABE in the workforce system, discuss your thoughts with your local WIB Director. Go to www.massworkforce.com for more information.

National Career Development Association Global Conference will be held on June 30 – July 3, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency at Union Square, St. Louis, Missouri. For info, go to www.ncda.org

The MA Department of Higher Education forwarded this info - Austin Community College (ACC) is a nationally recognized Healthcare Training Provider. 2009 is the second year in a row ACC is holding a **2-day training event on July 8 -10 in Austin, TX** to assist healthcare educators of both secondary and post-secondary schools with the goal of helping them improve funding, development and delivery of Continuing Education Healthcare Programs. It's common knowledge that the US is experiencing a workforce shortage of qualified healthcare professionals and the community colleges across the nation are carrying a significant responsibility to educate and graduate as many as possible, as fast as possible. The [Healthcare Training Success Conference](#) exists for this very reason.

One-Stop Career Center Events

Wednesday, April 22, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **Hospitality Career Fair**, Hyannis, MA. Career Opportunities, 372 North Street, Hyannis, MA. For more information, go to www.capejobs.com

Wednesday, May 6, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Marine, Landscaping and Construction Career Fair, Career Opportunities, 372 North Street, Hyannis, MA. For more information, go to www.capejobs.com

Wednesday, May 27, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, MBTA Information Sessions, Marlboro.
Learn about opportunities with the MBTA – info on the upcoming job lottery, present and future jobs with the MBTA, tips on how to apply for positions, feedback on your resume. Go to **Employment & Training Resources**, 201 Boston Post Road West, Suite 200, Marlborough, MA. Preregistration required at 508-786-0928, Ext. 127.

RESEARCH

JFF Newswire – Jobs for the Future disseminates information in a variety of publications related to “next steps for students” (For info, go to www.jff.org and click on “November Newswire”)

PUBLICATIONS

Mentoring Formerly Incarcerated Adults: Insights from the Ready4Work Reentry Initiative, by Shawn Bauldry, Danijela Korom Djakovic, Wendy S. McClanahan, Jennifer McMaken and Laurie Kotloff , January 2009, 38 pages.

This report explores mentoring as a tool for supporting the successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals within the context of a larger reentry strategy—in this case, the Ready4Work model. Ready4Work was a three-year national demonstration designed to address the needs of the growing ex-prisoner population and to test the capacity of community- and faith-based organizations to meet those needs. To download, go to www.jff.org

SABES

ALRI – Boston will host a **Next Steps Workshop** on April 29, 2009 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. This session will feature information about short term training initiatives, including CityLab Academy at Boston University, International Institute of Boston, Red Cross CNA Training, and the Extended Care Career Ladder Initiative training for incumbent workers. Contact John Zhang at the ALRI at 617-287-4076 for info.

Contact your **SABES Workforce Coordinator** for information on SABES WFD activities. Laurie Sheridan is the statewide SABES Workforce Coordinator; Contact her at 617-482-9485 or lsheridan@worlded.org. Go to www.sabes.org and scan the calendar for workforce related sessions. SABES Workforce Development Specialists include Dori McCormack at SABES West; Cathy Gannon at Central SABES, Kathleen Howell at SABES SE, Patricia Pelletier at SABES NE, and John Zhang at the ALRI.

For more information on the ACLS Workforce Development Specialty, contact Andrea Perrault, ACLS Workforce Development Specialist at 781-338-3852 or e-mail at aperrault@doe.mass.edu.