

On-the-Job Training. The state of Maryland was awarded a grant from the US Department of Labor to support on-the job training (OJT). OJT is a training strategy that the workforce investment system can offer local employers and job seekers. OJT puts unemployed workers back to work earning a wage while receiving training. Employers can be reimbursed for the costs associated with training this new employee. With many employers still reluctant to hire new staff and many skilled individuals facing extended unemployment, OJTs can get job seekers back to work and train them to meet employer needs. This also allows people to continue to draw a paycheck while learning new skills. Montgomery County will receive funds from the state of Maryland under this grant to try OJTs for its unemployed workers.

Green Training and Jobs. Montgomery County is developing training opportunities under two grants, the Maryland Energy Sector Partnership Grant (MESP) and the Energy Efficiency Block Grant (EEBG). Under the MESP, MontgomeryWorks will add a Green Navigator to assist job seekers find green training and green jobs. MontgomeryWorks can develop its own training and can also refer customers to training being developed by other local workforce investment areas. Both the MESP and EEBG grant have training opportunities for employers

Step by Step Maryland. Montgomery County Workforce and HHS joined six other local workforce investment areas in applying for a Health Professions Opportunity Grants to Serve TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Individuals. The proposed project, Step by Step Maryland, brought together experienced workforce intermediaries and healthcare businesses active throughout the State of Maryland to support efforts to prepare area residents for careers in high-demand healthcare occupations. Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) took the lead on the grant application. There is no anticipated date for announcement of the grant awards.

Youth Services. This year, Division of Workforce Services issued RFPs for services to youth with disabilities and youth employment services. In both cases, the existing vendor was chosen, TransCen for youth with disabilities and Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) for the operation of the Maryland Multicultural Youth Center.

AARP Roundtable. As part of the County Executive's commitment to promote vital aging for all seniors, DWS is holding conversations with AARP about holding a roundtable in Montgomery County in the first quarter of 2011. These roundtable discussions invite business leaders to learn about:

- The latest trends in recruiting, managing and training a multigenerational workforce
- How industry leaders are instituting policies that meet the needs of a 21st century workforce
- What strategies leading CEOs are adopting to gain a competitive edge in a global war for talent

- Utilizing the *AARP Workforce Readiness Assessment* tool to identify any potential impact the aging workforce will have on businesses.

Workforce and Economic Development Awards Breakfast. The breakfast will occur Friday December 17 at Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center.

Montgomery County and Maryland Fact Sheets. These fact sheets prepared by the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) give a quick overview on labor force, education, and other demographics. Copies are in this tab.