



THE FLORIDA OFFICE OF Economic Recovery



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Florida Workforce System to Receive \$165 Million in Stimulus Funds

~Funds to provide additional job placement and training ~

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TALLAHASSEE – Governor Charlie Crist, continuing his efforts to reinvigorate Florida's economy, today announced the release of \$165 million in federal economic stimulus funds to local workforce boards for additional job placement services and job training for the people of Florida. The funds will provide workforce training for unemployed Floridians and help businesses improve their workers' skills.

"As I have visited the one-stop career centers throughout the state, I have been impressed with how they help Florida's workforce with placement and training services," Governor Crist said. "I applaud the Agency for Workforce Innovation and Workforce Florida for quickly getting these funds to the local level where they help Floridians connect with employers."

The \$165 million in federal workforce stimulus funds are being allocated as follows over the next three years:

- \$43 million for youth services, including summer employment.
- \$19 million in adult workforce services, such as job placement and training programs.
- \$81 million in workforce services for dislocated workers, including those who have been laid off or whose employer has closed or gone out of business.
- \$22 million in employment services at the state's One-Stop Career Centers.

"These federal stimulus funds will be dedicated to a wide variety of training and job placement services, including matching job seekers with businesses,

providing summer employment opportunities for young people, and assisting Floridians at One-Stop Career Centers around the state,” said Agency for Workforce Innovation Interim Director Cynthia Lorenzo. “The beauty of Florida’s workforce system is that we are able to facilitate the infusion of these federal dollars to meet local needs.”

After receiving formal notification from the U.S. Department of Labor that stimulus workforce funding is now accessible, the Agency for Workforce Innovation today issued a Notice of Fund Availability to the 24 regional workforce boards, which operate Florida’s One-Stop Career Centers. The action follows Wednesday’s approval by Workforce Florida Inc. of the allocation of workforce stimulus funds to the state and the regional workforce boards outlining the amount each has to support efforts aimed at assisting unemployed Floridians and helping businesses improve their workers’ skills.

“Whether they are already qualified and need help finding a job or need new skills to prepare for existing or emerging employment opportunities, Floridians should know our system’s number-one priority is getting them back to work while supporting our state’s economic development priorities to rekindle our economy,” said Chris Hart IV, President/chief executive officer of Workforce Florida, which is charged with overseeing Florida’s workforce system and developing strategies that help Floridians enter and advance in the workforce while strengthening the state’s business climate.

The federal stimulus workforce funds are being distributed to the state’s regional workforce boards to address their local communities’ needs based on state and federal funding formulas and with a strong emphasis on efficiently and effectively deploying the resources in a timely manner to help accelerate economic recovery.

For additional details and contact information for the regional workforce boards, please visit <http://www.workforceflorida.com/boards/index.htm>. To learn more about the workforce services and resources available in Florida, visit EmployFlorida.com.

The federal stimulus funding is subject to appropriation by the Florida Legislature, and Governor Crist looks forward to working with the Legislature to obtain the necessary approval. For more information about Florida’s use of the federal recovery dollars made available through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, please visit www.FlaRecovery.com.

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