

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Maine Quality Centers 2001 Program Report October 1, 2002

Summary

The Maine Quality Centers (MQC) was created in 1994 by the Maine Legislature as an economic development program within the Maine Technical College System. This report is submitted to the 120th Maine Legislature, Second Session, and its Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development in compliance with various reporting requirements. The report is divided into two sections including major program elements and a summary of projects active during calendar year 2001. Data regarding MQC projects active in 2001 includes their total dollar investment, projected job creation as well as the actual numbers trained and hired as of December 31, 2001. The report's primary findings follow.

	Project Activity
Active 2001 projects:	44
• 2001 MQC project expenditures:	\$837,304
• Total MQC investment in active projects:	\$3,169,531
• Total projected job creation:	2,446
• Total trained as of 12/31/01:	2,590
• Total hired as of 12/31/01:	2,729
• Average project wage:	\$11.18
• Total estimate of related private investment:	\$377,658,467

The program

The program's dual statutory mission is "...to meet the workforce education and training needs of new and expanding businesses in the State and provide new employment and career advancement opportunities for Maine people." The statute defines three primary purposes for the program; *job creation*, *workforce preparation* and *creating partnerships*. The program's public benefit is to serve the employer's need for additional skilled workers, give trainees portable work skills to compete in today's workforce and establish and maintain relationships that support regional economic growth.

The program is coordinated by a State Director with individual project services delivered by one of the seven colleges of the Maine Technical College System. Project funding supports customized training activities as well as applicant recruitment and screening when appropriate. Most services are provided directly by a Technical College although the statute provides for coordination with other education and training providers if necessary. The program's FY02 budget was \$1.3million.

Interested businesses complete an application which is reviewed by the State Director for the number of net new jobs, skill level of new positions, wage and benefit levels, training

required, rate of return on public investment and other pertinent labor market considerations. Once an application is initially approved, the business and the Technical College develop a training plan that defines the customized services and training for the project. The parties sign a memorandum of agreement prior to the beginning of any training.

Individual projects vary in length and training schedules, and frequently cross academic, fiscal, and calendar years. Training may include academic credit if appropriate and can occur either prior to or after the business makes a hiring decision. A single project may include multiple cycles of training. Throughout the training the Technical College and the employer monitor the project and make adjustments as required.

Program activities

During 2001 the MQC expended \$837,304 on forty-four separate projects, with at least one project at each of the State's seven Technical Colleges. The range of project expenditures in 2001 was \$214 to \$76,033 with a median expenditure of \$14,124 and a mean expenditure of \$19,030. In their entirety the projects represent 2,446 projected new jobs. As of December 31, 2001, 2,590 people have been trained and 2,729 hired. The average project wage was \$11.18. The total MQC investment in the forty-four projects over multiple fiscal years is \$3,169,531. The projects represent a projected private capital and payroll investment of over \$377million.

Individual businesses that received services greater than \$10,000 during calendar year 2001 were required to submit a report to the Department of Economic and Community Development. All eligible businesses, with the exception of three that went out of business, complied with the reporting requirement.

The attached table summarizes all projects that were active in calendar year 2001. Consortium projects involved multiple employers. Each project is summarized in its entirety and includes the projected total number of new jobs and actual data reported through the end of the calendar year. Numbers of trainees and hires are project totals and may include numbers from previous years. The year listed reflects the date the project was approved and if another date appears, it represents a project amendment. Individual columns capture both the total value of the project, an expenditure that may be made over multiple fiscal years, and the actual expenditure level for calendar year 2001. Training and hiring activity may not yet be reportable for some newer projects. The chart also includes an employer estimate of the value of the planned workforce expansion's increase of annual payroll and capital investment.

MAINE QUALITY CENTERS PROJECTS ACTIVE IN 2001

PROJECT STATUS AS OF 12/31/01

PROJECTS	LOCATION	COLLEGE	START DATE	PROJECTED JOBS	# of APPLI-CANTS	# TRAINED	# HIRED	PROJECTED AVE. WAGE	CALENDAR 2001 SPENDING	MQC INVESTMENT	PRIVATE INVESTMENT
Amato's Sandwich Shops	Portland	SMTC	2000	35	33	33	33	\$14.17	\$8,382	\$24,313	\$298,000
Andover Wood Products	Andover	CMTC	2000	28	40	40	21	\$8.96	\$4,049	\$46,890	\$4,150,000
ATX Forms	Caribou	NMTC	2001	39	39	39	39	\$8.57	\$38,984	\$38,984	\$1,300,000
Banknorth	Portland	SMTC	2000	10	15	15	15	\$10.00	\$1,708	\$7,619	\$335,500
Beckett Academy	Belgrade	KVTC	2001	17	61	19	9	\$9.13	\$19,166	\$27,420	\$2,500,000
Cisco Consortium	Various	CMTC	2001	12	12	0	12	\$14.57	\$10,425	\$45,000	\$1,566,080
Cisco Consortium	Various	YCTC	2001	10	10	0	9	\$17.44	\$32,754	\$45,420	\$310,556
Dumont Group*	Monmouth	CMTC	2000	32	34	34	34	\$11.81	\$18,210	\$66,779	\$2,000,000
Eastern Maine Medical Center	Bangor	EMTC	2001	12	12	0	12	\$11.50	\$20,171	\$42,419	\$284,560
Edwards Systems Technology	Pittsfield	KVTC	1999	90	142	70	110	\$7.75	\$214	\$139,500	\$4,000,000
EMS	Westbrook	SMTC	1997-01	145	313	133	197	\$7.53	\$10,889	\$109,620	\$4,464,200
Employment Specialists of ME	Augusta	KVTC	2000	47	105	59	82	\$9.00	\$21,317	\$50,511	\$100,000
EnvisioNet*	Bruns/Augsta	KVTC	1999-01	460	790	314	264	\$9.50	\$63,956	\$380,740	\$17,600,000
Fairchild Semiconductor	S Portland	SMTC	2000	12	8	0	8	\$16.75	\$34,422	\$35,375	\$160,000
Fisher Engineering	Rockland	KVTC	2001	8	17	5	5	\$10.00	\$20,449	\$25,000	\$166,400
General Electric	Bangor	EMTC	2001	150	44	0	44	\$18.13	\$25,159	\$291,000	\$93,600,000
GenPlex	Waterville	KVTC	2001	11	16	9	1	\$8.75	\$14,222	\$20,024	\$200,000
Jackson Laboratory	Bar Harbor	EMTC	2001	100	44	44	18	\$10.25	\$76,033	\$103,890	\$14,950,045
KV Metals Consortium	Various	KVTC	2001	23	17	15	8	\$11.81	\$50,632	\$57,396	\$461,200
Log On America	Kennebunk	YCTC	2000	30	35	9	9	\$9.50	\$2,399	\$44,324	\$975,000
Main Resources	S Portland	SMTC	2000	21	44	41	33	\$10.17	\$10,859	\$16,969	\$573,776
Maine Machine Products	S Paris	CMTC	2001	24	18	18	18	\$11.00	\$27,777	\$60,000	\$1,675,000
ME Metals Products Consortium	Various	YCTC	2001	23	18	0	0	\$8.50	\$6,112	\$39,766	\$200,000

Calendar Year 2001

* Company went out of business

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McCain Foods USA	Easton	NMTC	1999	72	133	0	133	\$9.35	\$16,669	\$175,000	\$71,988,000
Moss & Posies Consortium.	Blfst/Rcklnd	EMTC	2000	25	22	5	3	\$8.00	\$744	\$2,266	\$770,000
Northeast Paper Services	Portland	SMTC	2001	13	9	7	9	\$12.00	\$12,448	\$25,360	\$2,880,000
New Balance	Norway	CMTC	1998	255	506	591	326	\$8.50	\$6,735	\$244,111	\$4,500,000
Northeast Welding & Fab.	Auburn	CMTC	1998	30	30	25	22	\$11.00	\$697	\$35,344	\$255,000
N. Me. Trucking Consortium	Presque Isle	NMTC	2000	9	8	7	7	\$14.10	\$2,660	\$21,280	\$1,112,000
Perrier Group	Hollis	SMTC	2000	120	162	99	178	\$13.82	\$43,855	\$175,000	\$76,000,000
Pratt & Whitney	Berwick	YCTC	2001	100	31	10	8	\$11.15	\$11,906	\$85,000	\$15,000,000
Printlife*	Saco	YCTC	2000	10	39	10	0	\$14.24	\$18,469	\$19,485	\$4,816,000
Rich Tool & Die Co.	Scarborough	SMTC	1998	36	75	61	61	\$7.00	\$5,195	\$58,710	\$5,156,560
Richardson Hollow	Auburn	KVTC	2000	52	87	25	66	\$11.50	\$30,725	\$65,211	\$200,000
Sitel	Limestone	NMTC	1999	100	485	435	485	\$7.25	\$49,766	\$88,095	\$1,664,000
Smith & Wesson	Houlton	NMTC	2001	14	61	15	6	\$8.77	\$36,850	\$36,850	\$743,740
Somatex	Pittsfield	KVTC	99-01	37	73	33	44	\$12.29	\$14,124	\$118,424	\$540,000
Specialty Minerals	Millinocket	EMTC	2001	6	7	7	7	\$15.00	\$9,987	\$9,987	\$11,450,000
Spurwink Schools	Portland	SMTC	1997	70	103	73	112	\$10.60	\$8,535	\$35,196	\$2,207,850
Sweetser	Saco	YCTC	2001	22	21	21	21	\$10.60	\$4,427	\$18,443	\$1,600,000
Tri County Mental Health	Lewiston	CMTC	1999	30	163	173	162	\$10.45	\$14,352	\$52,500	\$200,000
Unicel	Bangor	EMTC	2000	15	50	44	45	\$10.33	\$14,556	\$17,190	\$395,000
Wash. Cty Psychotherapy Assoc.	Calais	WCTC	2000	45	158	46	47	\$9.75	\$9,715	\$42,580	\$2,810,000
Wright Express	S Portland	SMTC	2001	46	8	6	6	\$21.53	\$6,600	\$124,540	\$21,500,000

TOTALS				2446	4098	2590	2729	\$11.18	\$837,304	\$3,169,531	\$377,658,467
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Calendar Year 2001

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