

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF

LABOR

To: Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development
From: Maine Department of Labor
Date: May 20, 2011
Update: American Recovery Reinvestment Act Funds Program Activities

To comply with federal guidelines, the Maine Department of Labor is providing an update to ARRA fund expenditures. Please contact Linwood Higgins at 621-5096 with any questions or concerns.

Bureau of Employment Services

WorkForce Investment Act Formula Grant Activity

All Local Workforce Investment Areas are continuing to enroll customers in Adult and Dislocated programs both in short term occupational and other training activities such as On-The-Job trainings. As the grant comes to an end, each local area has enhanced their business outreach activities to place ARRA funded customers completing their training in employment.

The following is a summary of the accumulative number of ARRA participants enrolled to date by Local Area:

Aroostook/Washington

Adult -115 participants
Dislocated Workers – 124 participants
Youth - 201 participants

Tri- County (Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock)

Adults - 109 participants
Dislocated Workers – 124 participants
Youth – 218 participants

Central/Western (Somerset, Kennebec, Androscoggin, Oxford, Franklin)

Adults – 175 participants
Dislocated Workers – 190 participants
Youth – 229 participants

Coastal Counties (Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Cumberland, York)

Adults – 158 participants
Dislocated Workers – 387 participants
Youth – 232 participants

National Emergency Grant Activity

Name	Start	End	Total Award to date	Planned Enrollment	Actual Expenditure	Expenditure Rate	Actual Enrollment	Enrollment Rate
Wausau Paper - Dual Enrollment (ARRA)	2/17/2009	6/30/2011	\$254,516	143	\$206,485	81%	144	101%
Wood Structures (ARRA)	4/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$627,961	49	\$465,272	74%	49	100%
True Textiles-Dual Enrollment (ARRA)	4/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$462,096	140	\$378,001	82%	125	89%
Formed Fiber Technologies (ARRA) *	4/1/2009	12/31/2011	\$316,458	80	\$173,327	55%	51	64%
New Page - Dual Enrollment (ARRA)	7/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$323,565	75	\$55,582	17%	88	117%
Standard Insurance (ARRA)	5/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$430,470	65	\$353,239	82%	33	51%
RR Donnelley (ARRA) *	7/1/2009	12/31/2011	\$851,120	300	\$554,087	65%	150	50%
West Point Home - Dual Enrollment (ARRA) *	6/1/2009	12/31/2011	\$553,237	100	\$378,940	68%	113	113%
GE Security (ARRA)	7/1/2009	9/30/2011	\$372,839	65	\$78,022	21%	15	23%
Hinckley Co (ARRA)	10/1/2009	9/30/2011	\$394,617	60	\$171,057	43%	34	57%
HCTC (ARRA)	2/1/2010	12/31/2011	\$880,000	500	\$244,313	28%	183	37%

Rapid Response Activity

We are also continuing to use our ARRA Rapid Response monies to assist unemployed workers who are waiting for trade petition decisions. They will have immediate access to training and support services rather than wasting valuable time waiting for the Trade petition approval and fund distribution process.

These funds are also being used to increase the number of non-trade affected workers receiving services including on-the-job training, tuition assistance, and supportive services, as they transition to new employment. ARRA Rapid Response funds are allowing Maine to expand the capacity of its Peer Support Program to assist workers from the following companies: Katahdin Paper, Maine Military Authority, Maine Tire and Associated Grocers.

Trade Adjustment Act Activity

- Fairchild Semiconductor – So. Portland was trade certified on 3/25/11.
- Anderson Hardwood Floors – Patten was trade certified on 3/22/11.
- Katahdin Paper – East Millinocket/Millinocket was trade certified on 3/16/11.
- Maine Industrial Tire – Gorham trade certified on 3/15/11.
- Central Maine Healthcare – Lewiston was trade certified on 2/11/11.
- Center Point Teleservices – Eliot trade certified on 1/19/11.
- Wellpoint - So. Portland was trade certified on 1/12/11.
- SB Acquisitions – Westbrook 1/11/11 & Greenwood 1/4/11 trade certified.

Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

The Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired has redesigned its state wide comprehensive low vision delivery system. The system is actually a new protocol to replace the existing method of distributing low vision aids to people who need that assistance and to purchase additional aids such as magnifiers. Funds will be used to build an electronic, accessible, clinical/functional data exchange system for use between low vision clinicians and professional staff working with clients in the field.

Funds will also be used to purchase low vision devices for loaner and training and to develop an inventory database for tracking the devices.