

THE STATE OF WORKPLACE EDUCATION IN THE STATES *PENNSYLVANIA*

Funding

- \$500,000 funding allocated for the PA Workforce Improvement Network under WIA Title II
- 100% of the funding comes from federal resources
- In 2002- 2003 employers made in-kind contributions of over \$236,000 including clock time for employees, space and materials.
- Through 1999-2002, 18 affiliated agencies obtained fee-for-service contracts provided by PA WIN that resulted in fee for service contracts with 38 employers totaling \$223,511 and reaching 1,735 learners.

Current Initiatives

- The *Framework for Foundation Skills* has led to the:
 - Identification of twenty- one essential foundation skills and knowledge areas needed by all Pennsylvania workers, and
 - Increased clarity on the role of foundation skills within the continuum of CareerLink services (one stops).

Barriers to Workplace Education

- The downturn in the economy has led employers to cut costs including training budgets making it difficult to acquire additional training contracts after the seed money from PAWIN is exhausted.
- Decreases in federal and state funding result in cutting back programs.
- Employers have an increasing demand for “soft skills” such as teamwork, communicating with others and personal management skills as opposed to the traditional needs of basic education and English as a second language.

Location of programs

- There are 46 PAWIN affiliated agencies across the Commonwealth.
- 99% of the programs occur in the workplace.

Responsibility for implementation

- Community Colleges
- LEA's
- Employers
- Learning Centers

Support Services

- Training
- Curriculum Development
- Marketing

One-Stop Connections

- PA WIN is a Team PA CareerLink Partner and in many cases, the agencies receive referrals from and work closely with, the local One-Stops.
- Workplace education programs are made available in numerous One-Stop centers.
- One-Stop customers may participate in workplace education programs through adult education programs

Workplace Education Program Qualities

State	State/Local Partners	Student Enrollment	State Staff	State Led Effort
Pennsylvania	Community colleges, PA Dept. of Labor and Industry, Workforce Investment Boards, WIA network, One-stops	3-5%	Part-time and Contractual	Yes

Additional Information available: A chart illustrating the foundation skills developed under the *Framework for Foundation Skills* was provided by the state.