

Executive Summary: Tennessee ARRA LMI Improvement Grant

Purpose: To help connect target populations, including auto and auto-related industry workers who have been affected by significant automotive-related restructurings, to career pathways in green industries.

Activities:

- (1) **Conduct a comprehensive Tennessee green jobs survey** of 6,000 firms, including those receiving stimulus funds, based on 10 green sectors. Data will available by LWIA;
- (2) **Do a supplemental survey with a portion of these firms** to obtain more information on green jobs qualifications and requirements;
- (3) **Conduct impact studies on the six groundbreaking green industry investments** in Tennessee (Hemlock, Wacker, Volkswagen, Nissan (lithium battery and zero-electric vehicle), eTec (recharging stations), and the Volunteer State Solar Initiative (solar farm/research institute)). The study will provide estimates of the projected number of new jobs which might be created and retained by these new investments. [To be done by the MTSU- Business and Economic Research Center];
- (4) **Enhanced Labor Exchange:** Two additional self-service modules for the Source will be purchased: (a) A self-service module for job seekers that will allow individuals to post resumes online; and (2) A self- service module for employers to post jobs to The Source, with appropriate safeguards. We hope to identify jobs as green if appropriate. Additional programming will be needed for information to be exchanged between CMATS and the Source.
- (5) **Using transferable skills analysis** with auto-related workers to determine their potential to transfer to areas of green jobs that are in demand.

Strategic Partners:

TDLWD- ES Division
TDWLD- Workforce Division and the Workforce Board
MTSU, Business and Economic Research
TBR Workforce Office
Biodimensions, Inc.
TEICC
AFL-CIO Green Jobs/Rapid Response Coordinator
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Other Assistance:

BLS- select the survey
States' Green Jobs informal consortium

Project Time Line

- Month 1 Hire staff; finalize survey design and survey printing procedures.
(December) Begin process to obtain job seeker and employer self-service modules.
- Month 2 Print surveys and train staff. Work with MTSU to begin impact survey.
- Months 3-9 Green jobs survey mailing and collection of survey data.
- Month 4 Initiate programming for data transfer for the self-service modules.
- Month 7 Begin process to install self-service modules.
- Month 8 Test self-service modules.
- Month 10 Finalize survey collection and begin analysis.
- Months 12-15 Write reports and develop training/other materials for dissemination.
- Month 16 Print reports
- Months 17-18 Disseminate information in conjunction with strategic partners through web site, presentations, and publication.

Industries to Be Surveyed:

Renewable energy generation
Transportation
Green Construction
Manufacturing
Energy Efficiency
Research, Design, and Consulting Services
Environmental Protection
Agriculture and Forestry
Recycling and Waste Reduction
Governmental and Regulatory Administration

At least 40 counties are affected by auto industry restructuring.

Where Help is Needed

- Staffing:** Three positions need to be filled. Discussion needs to be held about paying for needed services at the programmer 4 level from Information Technology.
- Computers:** Statistical and other computer software needs to be purchased. Two new computers need to be purchased.
- Labor Exchange:** Two modules need to be purchased and installed on the Source. An IT services project needs to be completed to transfer information on clients and jobs between CMATS, the UI system, and the Source. Special skills will be needed. TN staff may need to communicate/visit Indiana.
- Surveys:** These will need to be designed, printed, and mailed in a timely manner.
- Meetings:** Two meetings need to be held with the project partners, at the beginning and midway through the grant.
- Publication:** The survey publication will need to be distributed (some printed?).