



**Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Alaska Workforce Investment Board**

**Executive Director's Report  
October 15, 2010**

The Alaska CTE Plan was published in August, 2010 and distributed to the DOLWD, DEED, University of Alaska, AVTEC, and school districts statewide. The AWIB, State Board of Education, and Board of Regents approved the Alaska CTE Plan and support implementation of the strategies contained in the Plan. The plan identifies strategies for the Alaska CTE Plan, key action steps and a timeline for monitoring progress of the State CTE Plan, the mission of CTE within Alaska's education and workforce development systems, and reviews the status of new and ongoing CTE initiatives and partnerships.

On September 28, 2010 the AWIB, in partnership with the Employment Security Division, was awarded a planning grant in the amount of \$150,000 as part of the State Health Care Workforce Development grant program authorized by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA). The AWIB application proposes to complete the comprehensive health care workforce development planning begun in 2009 by the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition, which led to the development of the Alaska Health Workforce Plan adopted by the AWIB as a model for health care training in Alaska at the board meeting held on May 3, 2010 under Resolution No. 10-02. The AWIB proposes to continue this planning effort through to final action planning. In order to satisfy membership requirements and to carry out grant-funded planning activities, the members from the AWIB required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) statute will engage with the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition, Laborer's Local 341, and the Alaska AFL-CIO to further develop the Alaska Health Workforce Plan.

The AWIB, in partnership with the Employment Security Division, submitted an application for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Health and Profession Opportunity Grants to Serve TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Individuals. The application proposed to provide eligible individuals with the opportunity to obtain education and training for occupations in the health care field that pay well and are expected to either experience labor shortages or be in high demand. The training grant application proposed to prepare participants for employment and advancement in health care occupations and provide support services as needed utilizing career and technical education, on-the-job training, registered apprenticeship, technical and vocational training institutions, and four-year colleges and universities to meet the needs of Alaska's health care industry employers. On 28, 2010 we were informed that we did not receive an award for this training grant. However, the Employment Security Division and AVTEC will be working with the Cook Inlet Tribal Council who received a training grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for TANF recipients.

On September 29, 2010 the AWIB, in partnership with the Employment Security Division, was awarded a Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Training Administration in the amount of \$2,727,000 to improve education,

training and employment opportunities and outcomes of youth and adults who are unemployed and/or receiving Social Security disability benefits. Alaska was one of nine states to receive an award under the DEI, and partner agencies include the One Stop Job Centers, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Division of Public Assistance and Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education.

On October 6, 2010, an Alaska State Energy Sector Partnership (ASESP) meeting was held to receive an update from the DOLWD on the ASESP training grants through project operator agreements and review the proposed RFP process and timeline. The training grants will increase the supply of workers with energy-efficiency skills to support energy efficient end user technology and the hydroelectric, wind turbine, geothermal, and biomass industries in Alaska. The ASESP Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Workforce Development Plan was also reviewed by the AWIB Executive Committee on October 12, 2010 with a recommendation to approve and forward to the AWIB for review at the October meeting.

On October 13, 2010 the ASESP Grant Process Committee met to review the proposed RFP process for training grants related to the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors with a target application period to begin on October 26, 2010. An update on the RFP process and training grants to date will be provided to the AWIB at the October board meeting in Fairbanks.

On October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 a meeting with the Regional Training Centers is scheduled in Anchorage to review the Gasline Training Plan, State CTE Plan, TVEP funding, University of Alaska education and training programs, and the Alaska Performance Scholarship program.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the next AWIB meeting will be held at the University of Alaska, Board of Regents Conference Room in Fairbanks. The agenda includes an update on the Gasline Training Plan, State CTE Plan and Implementation, Regional Training Centers, Regional Advisory Councils, Health Workforce Development Plan, and State Energy Sector Partnership. Time has been allocated on the agenda for board discussion and an update from the Executive Committee on two face to face meetings held this summer. The AWIB will conduct an election of officers and open nominations for the Vocational Instructor/Administrator of the Year.

On October 27, 2010 the Gasline Steering Committee will meet at the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center to review the Gasline Training Plan implementation schedule to date, project/manpower updates from Denali and TransCanada, workforce training needs from oil and gas industry employers, manpower updates from the pipeline crafts, a training providers report, and updates related to budget, research and analysis, and updated timeline for the Gasline Training Plan.

The AWIB website continues to be updated at <http://www.labor.alaska.gov/awib/> and includes the October 2010 Web Binder and links related to the Alaska Gasline, Registered Apprenticeship, Career and Technical Education, Employment, Training, and Grant Information, Regional Advisory Councils, Regional Training Centers, and the AWIB Newsletter.

## **Committees**

- The next Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.
- The next Workforce Readiness/Employment Placement Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.
- The next Assessment and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.
- The next Policy and Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 24, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

## **Important Dates**

- The next National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum will be held in Washington, D.C. from February 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- The Annual Report to the Legislature is due on February 17, 2011.