



Wider Opportunities for Women

Fact Sheet: The Green Jobs Act of 2007

March 4, 2008

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, signed into law Dec. 19, 2007, amends the Workforce Investment Act by adding the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Worker Training Program, also known as the **Green Jobs Act of 2007**.

- **Priority target populations:** workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, individuals who need updated training, veterans, unemployed individuals, individuals, including at-risk youth seeking pathways out of poverty into *economic self-sufficiency*, and formerly incarcerated, nonviolent offenders.
- **Eligible industries** include such industries as energy-efficient construction and building retrofit, renewable electric power generation, deconstruction and materials use, residential and commercial energy efficiency assessment, and the manufacture or production of advanced drive train vehicles, biofuels, environmentally sustainable processes and products.
- Authorizes \$125 million for –
 - **National Research Program** to track and document skill needs, develop standards and curricula, assess new practices such as career ladder training and provide technical assistance.
 - **Competitive National Energy Training Partnership Grants** awarded on a regional basis to nonprofits broadly representative of employers, labor, Workforce Investment Boards, community-based organizations, educational institutions and others. Among other things, grantees are to be experienced in providing training leading to *economic self-sufficiency*.
 - **State Labor Market Research, Information and Labor Exchange Programs** to identify job openings administer worker assessment and provide case management and counseling.
 - **Competitive State Energy Sector Training Partnership Grants** to coordinate workforce development programs, including existing apprenticeship and labor-management training programs and programs leading to *economic self-sufficiency*
 - **Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration authorized at \$25 million:** Competitive grants for training individuals whose family income is “less than 200 percent of the *self-sufficiency* standard for the local areas where the training is conducted that specifies, as defined by the state, or where such standard is not established, the income needs of families, by family size, the

number and ages of children in the family, and sub-state geographical considerations.”

- **Eligible entities:** Partnerships that include nonprofits, educational institutions, and employers and labor organizations from the energy sector. Priority will be given to entities experienced in:
 - Recruiting and benefiting low-income workers, unemployed youth and adults, dropouts and other underserved populations from high-poverty areas.
 - Ensuring supportive services
 - Leveraging additional resources
 - Involving employers and labor organizations in determining relevant skills and credentials
 - Delivering courses at alternative times and locations
 - Linking adult remedial education with skills training
 - Administering public and private grants
- **Training activities, coordinated where appropriate, with existing providers and systems:** curriculum development; lassroom, on-the-job and skills training; referral and tuition assistance leading to an industry-recognized credential; internships; customized training connected to a registered apprenticeship program or labor-management partnership; incumbent worker and career ladder training and retraining, transitional jobs, supportive services and outreach activities.
- **Data collection:** demographics, including race, gender, age and parenting status; program completion rates and significant interfering factors; job placement and one-year retention rates; average wage at placement, including any benefits; any post-employment supportive services provided.
- **Performance measures:** to be selected from WIA measures in agreement with the Department of Labor.