

# Youth Resource Connections

U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Youth Services  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210 (202) 693-3036,  
[http://www.doleta.gov/youth\\_services/](http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/)

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## HEADLINES

**White House Announces Summer Jobs Initiative.** The White House announced **Summer Jobs+**, a new call to action for businesses, non-profits, and government to work together to provide pathways to employment for low-income and disconnected youth in the summer of 2012. The President proposed \$1.5 billion for high-impact summer jobs and year-round employment for low-income youth ages 16-24 in the American Jobs Act as part of the Pathways Back to Work fund. The Federal government and private sector joined together to commit to creating nearly 180,000 employment opportunities for low-income youth in the summer of 2012, with a goal of reaching 250,000 employment opportunities by the start of summer, at least 100,000 of which will be placements in paid jobs and internships. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/01/05/we-cant-wait-white-house-announces-federal-and-private-sector-commitment>.

**The Employment and Training Administration Issues Advisory Notice on the Strategies to Meet One-Stop Career Centers' Business and Job-Seeker Customer Needs for Employment-Related Transportation Services.** The Employment and Training Administration released Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 21-11, which informs the public workforce system about: 1) provide successful strategies for connecting individuals with transportation to jobs and training, and 2) help businesses access a diverse workforce. To view the TEN, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?DOCN=6293](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=6293).

**The Employment and Training Administration Issues Advisory Notice Clarifying Selective Service Registration Requirements for ETA-Funded Programs.** The Employment and Training Administration has issued **Change 1 to Training and Employment Guidance Letter 11-11**. This TEGL clarifies which programs or services must comply with the Selective Service registration requirements of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 § 189(h), codified at 20 CFR 667.250, and the Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. App. 453), codified at 32 CFR Part 1605. To view the TEN, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=6972](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=6972).

**U.S. Department of Education Publishes Request to Increase Postsecondary Success.** The U.S. Department of Education published a Request for Information on Monday, January 30, 2011 Federal Register inviting institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, States, systems of higher education, adult education providers, researchers, and institutional faculty and staff, or consortia of such entities, to provide the Department with information about promising and practical strategies, practices, programs, and activities that have improved rates of postsecondary success, transfer, and graduation. To view the Federal Register notice, visit: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-01-30/pdf/2012-1963.pdf>. Responses to the RFI must be submitted by **April 30**.

## ***FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES***

**Secretary of Labor Announces Grant Competition to Help Former Offenders Gain Career Skills and Rejoin Community Life.** Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis announced the availability of \$20.6 million in grant funds to assist adult former offenders who are returning to their communities after serving time in justice facilities. The U.S. Department of Labor expects to award 17 grants of approximately \$1.21 million each to organizations that will provide these individuals with employment-focused services and support. A notice of the grants solicitation was published in the January 13 edition of the Federal Register at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-01-13/pdf/2012-524.pdf>. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20120040.htm>. **Deadline: March 13.**

## ***OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, AND TEACHERS***

**Youth Service America Invites Young Change-Makers to Apply for Disney Friends for Change Grants.** Youth Service America and Disney are accepting applications for its Disney Friends for Change Grants program. This program offers young change-makers in the United States funding to help make a lasting, positive change in their communities and the world. Youth between the ages of 5 and 18 in all fifty states and the District of Columbia are eligible to lead a project and apply for a \$1,000 grant. (Applicants younger than 13 years of age must have an older person submit the application on their behalf.) For complete program guidelines, the eligibility quiz, and the application form, as well as information on previous grant recipients, visit the YSA Web site. <http://www.ysa.org/grants/disney-friends-change-grants>. **Deadline: February 29.**

**The Dollar General Literacy Foundation Accepting Applications for Adult Literacy and Family Literacy Grant Programs.** The Dollar General Literacy Foundation provides support to schools, libraries, and literacy-based nonprofit organizations throughout Dollar General's thirty-eight-state market. The foundation is now accepting applications for the following programs:

**Adult Literacy Grants:** provides funding to nonprofit organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance. Applicant organizations must provide help in at least one of the following instructional areas: adult basic education; General Education Diploma preparation; or English language acquisition. Eligible applicants must be 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations and/or educational institutions (K-12 private and public schools, colleges and universities) and/or public libraries, and must be listed in the [National Literacy Directory](#). Awards will range up to \$15,000. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: [http://www.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/pages/grant\\_programs.aspx](http://www.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/pages/grant_programs.aspx). **Deadline: February 28.**

**Family Literacy Grants:** provides funding to family literacy service providers. The foundation uses the federal government's definition of family literacy when reviewing grant applications. Applicant organizations must offer the following: adult education instruction; children's education; parent and child together time (PACT); and parenting classes. Eligible applicants must be 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations and/or educational institutions (K-12 private and public schools, colleges and universities) and/or public libraries, and must be listed in the National Literacy Directory. Awards will range up to \$15,000. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: [http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/family\\_literacy.aspx](http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/family_literacy.aspx). **Deadline: February 28.**

**Summer Reading Grants:** provides funding to local nonprofit organizations and libraries working to implement or expand summer reading programs. Programs must provide direct literacy-based services for pre-K through 12th-grade students who are new readers, below grade-level readers, or readers with learning disabilities. Eligible applicants must be 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations and/or public libraries. Award amount is \$3,000. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: [http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/summer\\_reading.aspx](http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/summer_reading.aspx). **Deadline: February 28.**

**The Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education, the National Science Teachers Association, and the College Board Invites Applications for their Fourth Annual Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge.** The Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education, the National Science Teachers Association, and the College Board is accepting applications for its fourth annual Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge program. The program is designed to educate, empower, and engage students (grades K-12) and teachers across the United States to become "Agents of Change" in identifying and solving environmental problems. To obtain additional information and an application, visit: <http://www.wecanchange.com/>. **Deadline: March 15.**

**ING Unsung Heroes Program Opens Grant Program for K-12 Educational Projects.**

ING Accepts Applications for its Unsung Heroes Awards Program. ING invites applications from K-12 educators for its Unsung Heroes Awards Program. The program is designed to recognize educators who utilize new teaching methods and techniques that improve student learning. 100 finalists will receive \$2,000. Three of the top finalists will receive \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$25,000. K-12 education professionals who are employed full-time by an accredited K-12 public or private school in the United States are eligible to apply. For more information, visit: <http://ing.us/about-ing/citizenship/childrens-education/ing-unsung-heroes>. **Deadline: April 30.**

**The Foundation for Youth Investment Offers Funding to Connect Underserved Youth to Outdoors in Northern and Central California.**

The Foundation for Youth Investment invites applications from Northern and Central California nonprofits for its Catalyst Fund program grants. The grants are designed to support work to connect youth with outdoor experiences within or near their communities. Eligible applicants must be a federal and California tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization; or a public agency, school district, or federally recognized tribe; or have an eligible tax-exempt organization serving as fiscal sponsor. Grants of up to \$15,000 will be awarded during two funding cycles in 2012. To obtain additional information and an application, visit:

<http://www.fyifoundation.org/grantmaking/funds/2012-catalyst-fund>. **Deadline: May 3.**

**PUBLICATIONS**

**A Toolkit for Employers: Connecting Youth and Business.** This toolkit developed by Gap Inc., McKinsey & Company, Corporate Voices for Working Families, and the Taproot Foundation, provides step-by-step instructions designed to guide companies on options for supporting, training, and employing disconnected youth. It was created for companies with some experience in nonprofit engagement or community involvement. To view the toolkit, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/summerjobs/pdf/Toolkit.pdf>.

**The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Announces the Availability of Youth Publications on its Research Publication Database Web site.**

The Research Publication Database provides access to a collection of research and evaluation reports commissioned by ETA to help guide the workforce investment system in administering effective programs that have, at their core, the goals of enhanced employment opportunity and business. The following youth publications have been posted on the database:

**Innovative Programs and Promising Practices: Indian and Native American Summer Youth Employment Initiatives and the 2009 Recovery Act.**

This report describes the context in which programs for the Indian and Native American (INA) Summer Youth Employment Initiative were created and provides a detailed discussion of how grantees used their Recovery Act funds to implement programs to serve youth in their communities. The analysis is based on INA grantees' performance measure data and qualitative data collected during site visits to a purposive sample of five diverse grantees in five states. This report also highlights key findings and innovations grantees made to better serve youth. To view the report, visit:

[http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp\\_resultDetails&pub\\_id=2483&mp=y](http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_resultDetails&pub_id=2483&mp=y).

**Beyond a Summer Work Experience: The Recovery Act 2009 Post-Summer Youth Employment Initiative.** This study examines how some local areas used their Recovery Act funds to serve youth beyond the 2009 summer months. Using qualitative data collected through visits to eight local sites in seven states, this report describes key features of the sites' post-summer youth employment initiative, and lessons that may help inform future efforts to provide work experience and other activities to older, out-of-school youth. To view the study, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp\\_resultDetails&pub\\_id=2482&mp=y](http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_resultDetails&pub_id=2482&mp=y).

**Using Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Funds to Support Subsidized Youth Employment: The 2010 Summer Youth Employment Initiative.** This study examines qualitative data collected in 10 local sites across seven states to describe the partnerships between state and local Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and workforce agencies, particular aspects of the youth employment initiatives that the TANF funding affected, and youths' summer work experiences. To view the study, visit: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp\\_resultDetails&pub\\_id=2481&mp=y](http://wdr.doleta.gov/research/keyword.cfm?fuseaction=dsp_resultDetails&pub_id=2481&mp=y).

## **PROGRAM RESOURCES**

**The Employment and Training Administration Launches Enhancements to the Certification Finder Database and Search Tool.** As part of efforts to promote credential attainment, the Department of Labor-sponsored CareerOneStop electronic tool has launched enhancements to the **Certification Finder** database and search tool that highlights certain credentials with icons indicating that were recognized, endorsed, or accredited by specific third-party organizations. The Certification Finder tool can be searched by industry, occupation, or keyword to find relevant personnel/workforce certifications that can help an individual qualify for employment and advancement. To view the Tool, visit: [http://www.acinet.org/certifications\\_new/Default.aspx](http://www.acinet.org/certifications_new/Default.aspx).

**The Employment and Training Administration Releases Customer Service Resources. Opening Doors for Everyone,** developed by Social Policy Research Associates in collaboration with the ETA's Older Workers Program, Disabilities Program, Indian and Native American Program, and Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program, helps frontline staff learn strengths-based ways of working with customers. Under ETA's technical assistance plan and investments, the agency has developed a video, toolkit, and webinar centered on the theme: "Strengths-Based Customer Service: Opening Doors for Everyone. To view and download the noted resources, visit: <https://doors.workforce3one.org>.

**The National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth Recommends: Hotline Numbers Every Youth Should Have.** The National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth (NCFY) has released a short list of hotline numbers that every youth should have, especially youth dealing with homelessness. To obtain additional information and view the hotline number lists, visit: <http://ncfy.acf.hhs.gov/the-beat/2012/12/resources-for-runaways>

**Webinar:** On February 13, 2012, 12:30-2:00 EST, 11:30-1:00 CST, 10:30-12:00 MST, 9:30-11:00 PST, the Children, Youth, and Families Education Network will host a webinar entitled: **Youth Development's 100 Year Legacy: Lessons to Shape Future Research and Practice.** This webinar will discuss the historical context and three themes for the 21st century: 1) The impact of divergent perspectives on youth development, 2) The value of translational scholarship, and 3) The importance of leveraging systems support. The guest speakers will include representatives from the Youth Work Institute, Youth Development Strategies, Inc., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development. To register for this Webinar, visit: <http://www1.cyfernet.org/onlinepd/02-12-historyYD.html>.

## **WEB SITES**

**Summer Jobs+ Web site** provides information for employers and youth on the Summer Jobs+ initiative as well as a number of helpful resources. To view the Web site, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/summerjobs/>.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**May 30–June 1.** Washington, DC. 2012 National Transition Conference: College and Careers for Youth with Disabilities. To obtain additional information, visit: <http://www.transition2012.org/>.

## **NOTICE:**

**The Employment and Training Administration is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce systems professionals together to serve our communities' youth. If you would like to share projects or programs in your area, please e-mail your information to the Division of Youth Services at [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).**

Thank you.

**Youth Resource Connections (YRC).** The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

**We welcome your input.** Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Division of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov) .

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