Ohio | Department of Job and Family Services
John R. Kasich, Governor
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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 22, 2014

Grants Will Spur Innovation in Job Training, Aid Growth Industries

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Five regional economic and workforce development organizations have won two-year grants from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation (OWT) to help unemployed and underemployed Ohioans find work and build careers in growing industries.

"Aligning state education and training programs with the needs of business is one of our primary, ongoing goals," said ODJFS Director Cynthia C. Dungy. "These regional training programs will combine classroom instruction, on-the-job training, internships and co-ops to bridge the gap between Ohioans looking for work and businesses looking to hire."

Called the Industry Workforce Alliance Pilot Initiative, the program will be funded with $729,000 in incentive funding from the U.S. Department of Labor and matching funds from the Governor's Office of Health Transformation Innovation Fund. Ohio was one of only 15 states to receive the federal incentive dollars, which are awarded to states based on the performance of their adult education and job training programs.

"Each of these applicants demonstrated a commitment to innovative and targeted strategies to improve Ohio's workforce system," said OWT Director Dawn Larzelere. "The programs will encourage regional economic development strategies and effectively address the needs of key industries by fostering partnerships among local employers, educators and government entities."

Each of the following grant recipients will receive up to $243,000 and will focus on a local growth industry:

Northeast:	Mahoning Valley Manufacturing Coalition | Manufacturing
Northwest:	Allen County Economic Development Group | Manufacturing
West:	Montgomery County Department of Community and Economic Development | Logistics
Southwest:	Partners for a Competitive Workforce | Logistics
Central:	Insurance Industry Resource Council | Insurance

The state plans to award a sixth and final grant in southeastern Ohio. More information about that opportunity is available at http://jfs.ohio.gov/rfp.

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