
Promising Practice Fact Sheet – Workforce Development CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAM – New York State

Program

Description: New program that links basic education to occupational training (including in green technology and construction). Services provided by local nonprofits. “Feeder” programs being established to address reading, math, and English deficiencies.

Target Population: Low-income adults, including TANF

Goal: Help clients gain entry into high-demand fields and meet employer needs

Cost: \$17.5 million budget for 2/1/09 through 1/31/11 period (\$12.5 million TANF and \$5 million WIA)

Evidence: None to date but being considered for national ISIS evaluation

Caseload Data: 3,002 active enrollments since 2/1/09 (1,710 TANF)

Services Overview:

- Links basic education to occupational training and integrated support services.
- Credentials, diplomas, and degrees awarded in high-demand fields, including green technology and construction, and health care.
- Services are provided by 28 non-profit contractors (17 in NYC).

Eligibility: Low-income adults

Findings:

- Of 3,002 active enrollments, 1,835 have received credentials and 292 diplomas or degrees; there have been 464 job entries, 220 90-day retentions, and 110 180-day retentions.

Implications for policymakers and program developers to consider:

- Finding that many enrollees were deficient in reading, math, and English proficiency, private funding was secured to establish two “feeder” programs at one of the providers (BronxWorks in NYC).
- The original milestones have proven hard to reach during current recession.