



Wisconsin Fast Forward – Blueprint for Prosperity Training Workers with Disabilities

June 2014

Recruiting employees who align with your business' culture and mission has never been more important to Wisconsin business owners than in today's economy. Developing a recruitment and hiring strategy that includes persons with disabilities can help businesses improve their bottom line.

The Office of Skills Development (OSD), in partnership with DWD's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and Office of Veterans Services (OVS), is seeking applications from Wisconsin businesses that are looking to train and hire persons with disabilities. Funds available through the Training Workers with Disabilities grant will provide a flexible funding source to respond to the workforce needs of Wisconsin businesses, diversifying their workforce, and increasing productivity by hiring persons with disabilities and veterans with service-related disabilities.



→ **BLUEPRINT FOR PROSPERITY**

- ▶ Potential grants can range from \$5,000 to \$100,000.
- ▶ Potential trainees must be currently receiving Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance and/or veterans with a service-connected disability, and/or eligible DVR consumers.

DVR and OVS can provide resources to address barriers to employment sometimes faced by persons with disabilities and the businesses who want to hire them. Email us at WFFTrainingWorkersWithDisabilities@dwd.wisconsin.gov for more information. To learn more about Training Workers with Disabilities grant and how to apply visit <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/wff/prosperity> Applications must be submitted no later than September 16, 2014.

Blueprint for Prosperity

Earlier this year, Governor Walker signed legislation under Blueprint for Prosperity that added \$35.4 million to the Wisconsin Fast Forward worker training program. The expansion targeted three areas, including grants to reduce wait lists at Wisconsin technical colleges, grants for collaborative projects among high schools, technical colleges, and employers to train high school students in industry-recognized certifications, and grants that enhance employment opportunities for workers with disabilities.

Governor Walker proclaimed 2014 as the Year of A Better Bottom Line to encourage and promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities.