



WWRN The One Source

Welfare-to-Work and Workforce Development Resource Network

National News Source

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State University of New York
University Center for Academic and Workforce Development

Cost: \$4.00 US
\$5.00 CA



Promising Practices for the Workforce Development Professional

www.promising-practices.org/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001

In addition to promising practices, videos, a calendar, and a virtual research assistant are available. Users can create their own personal knowledge center. The site is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor.



Economic Success Clearinghouse

www.financeproject.org/irc/win.asp

This site includes resources on effective policies, programs, and financing strategies that help low-income and working poor families. Information is available on work supports, income supplements, and asset development.



NATIONAL WORK READINESS CREDENTIAL

The National Work Readiness Credential is the first national standards-based assessment for entry-level workers. The credential provides a universal, transferable, national standard for work readiness. This initiative will accomplish the following:

- Enable job seekers to signal that they are work-ready and prepared for the first step on a career path;
- Streamline the hiring process for businesses and help them reduce their recruitment costs by identifying a pool of candidates with the right skills, knowledge, and abilities; and
- Improve the ability of workforce systems to refer work-ready applicants to business customers.

The Credential's assessment includes four modules:

- situational judgment,
- oral language,
- reading, and
- using math.

The following entry-level skills are assessed. Businesses from across industry sectors have identified the critical skills workers need to demonstrate in order to succeed in today's workplace and global economy:

- ✓ Speak so others can understand,
- ✓ Listen actively,
- ✓ Solve problems and make decisions,
- ✓ Cooperate with others,
- ✓ Resolve conflicts and negotiate,
- ✓ Observe critically,
- ✓ Take responsibility for learning,
- ✓ Read with understanding, and
- ✓ Use math to solve problems.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce will fully launch the initiative in January 2007. For more information, access www.workreadiness.com.

WHERE IT'S



One Source

www.nyswtwrn.com

Access resources related to workforce development, welfare reform, education, and faith-based and community initiatives. The site includes a clearinghouse, national calendar, and newsletter at no cost.



Fact Monster

www.factmonster.com/homework

This is a family-friendly site that helps people assist their children with homework and other learning activities.



HOW WORK HAS CHANGED

Flextime, telecommuting, independent contracting, and small business ownership is not only here and becoming more predominant, but appears to be a future growth opportunity for the American workforce according to the report *Work, Entrepreneurship, and Opportunity in 21st Century America*.

Prepared by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the report is available at www.uschamber.com/publications/reports/0604entrepreneurial_workforce.htm?n=ql.



Workforce development professionals may want to consider how to prepare the workforce to develop the skills necessary to succeed in this type of labor market.



ARE THEY REALLY READY TO WORK?

Worker's applied skills are more important than basic knowledge and skills, such as reading comprehension and mathematics according to a survey of business conducted by the Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, the Society for Human Resource Management, and the Society for Human Resource Management.

See what employers have to say about the following skills at www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/ReportCard_FINAL_updated.pdf:

- Professionalism/Work Ethic,
- Oral and Written Communications,
- Teamwork/Collaboration, and
- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving.



LOCALLY GROWN, KEY STRATEGIES FOR EXPANDING WORKFORCE SERVICES

According to this report by Public Private Ventures, collaboration, articulation of the organization's core beliefs, investing and communicating cutting edge ideas, and a commitment to staff lead to success. Access the report at www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/208_publication.pdf.



Event January 18, 2007
Seattle, WA

White House Regional Conferences on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

www.dtiassociates.com/FBCI/logisticsWA.cfm?location=WA



TEACHING ABOUT MONEY

A free online financial literacy guide is available from the National Endowment For Financial Education. The guide includes:

- Assessments,
- Guiding questions,
- Facilitator tips, and
- Resources.

Access the guide at www.nyec.org.financial.



POVERTY, PLACE, AND COST OF LIVING

A recent report, *The Cost of Living and the Geographic Distribution of Poverty*, uses the Fair Market Rents index to define poverty. Prevalence, depth, and severity of poverty between 1991 and 2002 are explored. Access the report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture at www.ers.usda.gov/publication.

Data Elements	September 2006	October 2006	October 2005
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.4	4.9
U.S. Average Hourly Earnings	\$16.84 ^P	\$16.91^P	\$16.28

Sources: www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/index.asp?reg=nys and www.bls.gov/eag/home.htm.

*Not Seasonally Adjusted
^PPreliminary



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