



The One Source

Welfare-to-Work and
Workforce Development
Resource Network

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Adult Learning

College Readiness

What is one answer to the number of students that drop-out of college? There is consensus that college readiness would reduce the number that drop-out of college, but according to the recent study, **The Challenge of College Readiness for All Students**, there is no consensus on the definition of college readiness. Twenty states have described the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in entry-level college courses. Fourteen of these states have academic-content standards. Some states include course-taking recommendations, minimum scores on standardized tests, and academic elements and/or soft skills in their definitions. Access information on this resource at www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2009/06/11/index.html, www.nsta.org/publications/news/story.aspx?id=56148, and www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/06/11/34readiness.h28.html

For a look at state high school graduation requirements, access www.edweek.org/media/ew/dc/2009/33sos_2009policies.pdf.

For information on graduation rates and other data for each school district in the nation, access www.edweek.org/apps/maps.

Helping Students with Barriers Complete Community College

For information on how to help student groups that traditionally have faced significant barriers to success, including students of color and low-income students, be successful in community colleges, access Achieving the Dream at www.achievingthedream.org/default.tp: College profiles of the states involved can be

accessed at this address. Related policies can be accessed at www.achievingthedream.org/aboutatd/spotlightonpolicies/default.tp.

Jobs for the Future has summarized lessons learned from the initiative in the document **Lessons from Achieving the Dream for Federal Efforts to Improve College Completion Rates**, which is accessible at www.jff.org/Documents/ATD_on_CACF_May_2009.pdf.

Applicable to Multiple Audiences

Fatherhood Initiatives: Promising Practices

Access the following resources for information on promising practices for fatherhood initiatives:

"What Works" in Fatherhood Programs? Ten Lessons From Evidence-Based Practice

is a resource that shares promising practices on improving fathers' involvement with children and families, and can be accessed at

<http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/library/docs/fatherhd/Blob/61791.pdf?rpp=-10&upp=0&m=1&w=NATIVE%28%27TI+ph+is+%27%27Ten+Lessons+from+Evidence-based+Practice%27%27+AND+AUTHORS+ph+like+%27%27National+Responsible+Fatherhood+Clearinghouse%27%27%27%29+r=1&orde>;

"What Works" in Programs Serving Fathers Involved in the Criminal Justice System?

Lessons from Evidence-Based Evaluations is a resource that identifies eight features of model

programs for fathers involved in the criminal justice system, and is accessible at <http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/library/docs/fatherhd/Blob/64589.pdf?rpp=-10&upp=0&m=2&w=NATIVE%28%27BASIC+ph+is+%27%27incarcerated%27%27+AND+AUTHORS+ph+like+%27%27national+responsible+fatherhood+clearinghouse%27%27%27%29&r=1&order=native%28%27year%27>

<http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/library/docs/fatherhd/Blob/64589.pdf?rpp=-10&upp=0&m=2&w=NATIVE%28%27BASIC+ph+is+%27%27incarcerated%27%27+AND+AUTHORS+ph+like+%27%27national+responsible+fatherhood+clearinghouse%27%27%27%29&r=1&order=native%28%27year%27>; and

Promising Teen Fatherhood Programs: Initial Evidence Lessons from Evidence-Based Research

is a resource that identifies promising practices for programs that want to reduce teen pregnancy, enhance outcomes for babies and children, and to engage teen fathers, and is accessible at

<http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/library/docs/fatherhd/Blob/64646.pdf?w=NATIVE%28%27TI+ph+is+%27%27teen%27%27+AND+AUTHORS+ph+like+%27%27National+Responsible+Fatherhood+Clearinghouse%27%27%27%29&upp=0&rpp=-10&order=native%28%27year%27>[Descend%27%29&r=1&m=2](http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/library/docs/fatherhd/Blob/64646.pdf?w=NATIVE%28%27TI+ph+is+%27%27teen%27%27+AND+AUTHORS+ph+like+%27%27National+Responsible+Fatherhood+Clearinghouse%27%27%27%29&upp=0&rpp=-10&order=native%28%27year%27).

Grant Reviewers Sought

If you would like to review grants for the U.S. Department of Justice, access their web site at www.usdoj.gov/archive/fbci/index.html and scroll down to "Have you ever thought about becoming a peer reviewer of grants/contracts put out by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)?".

Making Home Affordable

The Federal Departments of the Treasury and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are offering assistance to seven to nine million homeowners impacted by the housing crisis. People seeking more information on loan modifications and refinancing programs can now search for relevant information

at www.MakingHomeAffordable.gov, sponsored by the two Federal Departments. The site includes:

- An interactive assessment tool,
- Information on foreclosure scams,
- Ability to ask questions,
- Access to HUD counselors, and
- A payment reduction estimator.

Road to Recovery Toolkit Available

The 2009 toolkit for National Alcohol and Drug Addiction month (September) can be ordered by calling 1.800.662.HELP. Other information can be accessed at www.recoverymonth.gov/Recovery-Month-Kit.aspx and www.recoverymonth.gov.

Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

The Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Commerce, "...works to improve the ability of faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to fully participate in Department funding programs, while upholding the Department's mission of creating the conditions for economic growth and opportunity by promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, competitiveness, and stewardship in the social service sector." Access their web site at www.commerce.gov/OS/CFBCI/index.htm.

Frequently asked questions and answers can be accessed at www.commerce.gov/OS/CFBCI/DEV01_005413.

U.S. Department of Justice, Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

To access information on the U.S. Department of Justice's, go to www.usdoj.gov/archive/fbci/index.html.

What Is Going On In Your State and City?

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USHHS) is hosting a web site called Innovation in Effective Compassion. To find out what has been happening in your state or city, go to the site Taking Root in State and Cities at http://innovationincompassion.hhs.gov/states_cities/index.html. You will also find the following information accessible through the site's home page at <http://innovationincompassion.hhs.gov/index.html>:

- Background of the Faith-Based and Community Initiative,
- Transforming Government,
- Strengthening the Nonprofit Sector,
- Changing Lives, and
- Research and Resources.

In addition, you will find resources related to FBCIs on the following topics:

- At-Risk Youth;
- Increasing Nonprofit Capacity;
- Disaster Preparation, Response, and Recovery;
- Disadvantaged Students;
- Global HIV/AIDS;
- Homelessness;
- Hunger;
- Malaria;
- Economic Development and Public-Private Partnerships;
- Prisoner Re-Entry;
- Volunteerism and Private Strategies;
- Substance Abuse and Recovery;
- Veterans Services; and
- Community Health Services.

To view the USHHS FBCI's Center's most recent newsletter, access www.hhs.gov/fbci/Tools%20&%20Resources/Pubs/newsletter.pdf.

Welfare/TANF Initiatives

National Data on Working Poor Families

For national data on working poor families by state, access The Working Poor Families Project at www.workingpoorfamilies.org/indicators.html. The project focused on state workforce development policies involving:

- Education and skills training for adults,
- Economic development, and
- Income and work supports.

Over 100 indicators were used to identify current conditions and related state policies and programs in each of four areas:

- Conditions of low-income working families,
- Education and skills training available to working adults,
- Employment opportunities for entry-level and low-wage workers, and
- Conditions/employee benefits at existing jobs.

There are three types of indicators:

- Data-based,
- Policy, and
- Program performance.

Strategies for Increasing TANF Work Participation Rates: Summary Report

This report addresses strategies states are using to meet Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) work participation rates under the Deficit Reduction Act. Topics covered in the report include:

- Creating new work opportunities for TANF recipients (e.g., unpaid and paid work opportunities, paid work-study for TANF recipients enrolled in vocational education programs);
- Administrative strategies (e.g., using data to manage and encourage participation in work, holding contractors accountable for achieving high levels of participation);
- TANF policy changes (e.g., expansion of earned income disregard policies, revision of sanction policies and procedures); and
- Creating new programs (e.g., worker supplement programs, temporary support programs, solely state-funded programs).

Highlights of the findings include TANF administrative agencies:

- Creating strategies that improve the effectiveness of existing practices (e.g., holding employment service contractors accountable for achieving higher work participation rates);
- Changing existing policies in an effort either to encourage greater participation in work activities (e.g., changing sanction policies and procedures);
- Keeping more working families on the TANF caseload (e.g., expanding earned income disregard policies or implementing new worker supplement programs); and
- Determining that TANF is not well-suited to helping some families and creating alternative assistance programs for certain types of families, some within the TANF system and some outside of it.

Access the report sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and written by Mathematica Policy Research at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/08/TANFWPR/5/index.shtml>.

Workforce Development

Summer Youth Employment Resources

The U.S. Department of Labor is offering the following resources for summer youth programs:

- **Building a Skilled and Educated Workforce - Exploring Multiple Pathways to Community College for Out-of-School Youth** is a podcast that includes benefits and challenges of connecting youth to education and the workforce through these models and where to find these models in your local system. Access this podcast at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000913147558835745/info.

- **King County Work Training Assessment Sheet** is a learning employability profile that assesses young people in several different areas, and their readiness for work. Access this resource at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000912158025573030/info.
- **Linking Youth to Employment and Education through Community Service** is a podcast that includes the benefits and challenges of incorporating service learning into systems of multiple education pathways and other initiatives to connect youth to education and the workforce. Access this podcast at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000913238936070369/info.
- **Massachusetts Work-based Learning Plan** is a diagnostic, goal-setting, and assessment tool designed to drive learning and productivity on the job. Access this resource at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000912145053799927/info.
- **PIMA Learning and Employability Profile** includes commitment to quality, work habits, communication, interpersonal effectiveness, and attendance and punctuality. Access this resource at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000912158097951935/info.
- **PIMA Work Readiness Tool** is a work readiness assessment tool that rates 12 different personal competency areas including six pre-employment tasks and six which are job specific. Access this resource at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000912143577994242/info.
- **Structuring the Youth Work Experience** is a podcast that includes highlights of two programs, Year Up and Arts Tech, which successfully place some of the hardest-to-serve youth in internships and employment. Access this podcast at www.workforce3one.org/view/2000913249717090419/info.

If you are looking for timely resources, check the One Source web site at www.nyswtwrn.com or call 315.265.4099. These resources were posted on the web site and available to you at the beginning of the month.

Telework: What Is the Value?

If your business is considering telework, if you are preparing potential teleworkers, or you work with businesses who are considering telework, the Telework Exchange may have some valuable information. The purpose of the site at www.teleworkexchange.com is to demonstrate the value of telework with both educational and work applications. Online resources allow one to calculate the cost of teleworking compared to on-site office work.

There is a web site on telework specific to government employees at www.telework.gov.

To find jobs require or allow telework, access www.teleworkrecruiting.com.