

May 2011 Industry Partnership Fast Facts

- There are currently 76 industry partnerships, concentrated in 11 targeted industry clusters, covering every county of Pennsylvania. These partnerships encompass local workforce and economic development agencies, education and training providers, non-profit and faith-based organizations, and, most importantly, small and large employers with similar workforce challenges.
- There have been 6,300 Pennsylvania employers actively involved in the IP program since the inception. These employers have **contributed approximately \$75 million in private-sector matching funds** to the program. In addition, over 500 employers signed a letter endorsing IPs in the 2009-2010 budget debate.
- Through December 2010, there had been approximately 91,190 participants trained with IP dollars. By the end of this year, that number will reach **well over 100,000**. Prior to the recession, participants were experiencing as much as a **6.62% wage gain** upon completion of training.
- Through March 2011, there have been 118,000 trainings supported by the funds. These trainings enable workers to enhance their knowledge and abilities and obtain skill sets that lead to job placement or career advancement as well as increased productivity and job satisfaction.
- The annual wage and retention record for PA shows that **IP training participants' wages start out, on average, 11% higher** than individuals that do not engage in training when they switch careers within a targeted industry cluster.
- The wage and retention record also indicates that **individuals that engage in incumbent worker training have an 11% higher retention rate** within their industry than those individuals that do not participate in training.
- In spite of a funding cut of more than \$11.7 million (nearly 60%) from 2008 to 2009, the drop off in the number of workers trained was only 26% and the numbers of partnerships remained relatively even. This demonstrates the ability of the partnerships to adjust and adapt using local resources and relationships to stretch their limited dollars further.
- Since 2005, the **cost of training per participant has decreased by 82.8%**. This is evidence of the strategic benefits of consortia-based training and the partnerships' ability to identify cost-effective training providers as well as work together to negotiate high-quality, low-cost training programs that benefit a collective group of employers in the partnership. The **cost per training program has decreased by 84.5% overall**.
- By collaborating with state and local workforce and educational partners, the **IPs have help the Commonwealth to secure more than \$17 million in competitive federal workforce training grants**. These grants benefit the energy/ green jobs and Marcellus Shale industries as well as low-wage, low-skilled workers looking to advance up a career ladder.
- Legislation establishing the industry partnership program as a permanent workforce program within Labor & Industry has passed the Pennsylvania Senate on two separate occasions (Oct. 14, 2010 with a vote of 40-9 and on May 9, 2011 with a unanimous vote of 49-0). SB 552 currently awaits consideration in the House Labor & Industry Committee.