

CHAPTER 116L

MINNESOTA JOB SKILLS PARTNERSHIP

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116L.01 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** For the purposes of sections 116L.01 to 116L.05 the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Partnership.** "Partnership" means the Minnesota job skills partnership created by section 116L.02.

Subd. 3. **Board.** "Board" means the partnership board created by section 116L.03.

History: 1983 c 334 s 1,7; 1987 c 384 art 13 s 27; 1987 c 386 art 10 s 8; 1987 c 401 s 36; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 270

116L.02 JOB SKILLS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

The Minnesota job skills partnership program is created to act as a catalyst to bring together employers with specific training needs with educational or other nonprofit institutions which can design programs to fill those needs. The partnership shall work closely with employers to train and place workers in identifiable positions as well as assisting educational or other nonprofit institutions in developing training programs that coincide with current and future employer requirements. The partnership shall provide grants to educational or other nonprofit institutions for the purpose of training displaced workers. A participating business must match the grant-in-aid made by the Minnesota job skills partnership. The match may be in the form of funding, equipment, or faculty.

History: 1983 c 334 s 2,7; 1987 c 384 art 3 s 27; 1987 c 386 art 10 s 1,8; 1987 c 401 s 36; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 164,270

116L.03 BOARD.

Subdivision 1. **Members.** The partnership shall be governed by a board of 11 directors.

Subd. 2. **Appointment.** The Minnesota job skills partnership board consists of: eight members appointed by the governor, the commissioner of trade and economic development, the commissioner of economic security, and the chancellor, or the chancellor's designee, of the Minnesota state colleges and universities. If the chancellor makes a designation under this subdivision, the designee must have experience in technical education.

Subd. 3. **Qualifications.** Members must have expertise in, and be representative of the following fields of education, job skills training, labor, business, and government.

Subd. 4. **Chair.** The chair shall be appointed by the governor.

Subd. 5. **Terms.** The terms of appointed members shall be for four years except for the initial appointments. The initial appointments of the governor shall have the following terms: two members each for one, two, three, and four years.

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1987 c 386 art 10 s 7; 1987 c 401 s 39]

Subd. 7. **Offices.** The department of trade and economic development shall provide staff and administrative services for the board.

History: 1983 c 289 s 115 subd 1; 1983 c 334 s 3,7; 1984 c 544 s 84; 1984 c 642 s 3; 1Sp1985 c 14 art 9 s 5,75; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 312 art 1 s 26 subd 2; 1987 c 384 art 3 s 27; 1987 c 386 art 10 s 2-5,8; 1987 c 401 s 36; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 165,166,270; 1991 c 345 art 1 s 74; 1993 c 363 s 1,2; 1994 c 483 s 1; 1995 c 212 art 4 s 64; 1996 c 395 s 6,7

116L.04 PARTNERSHIP POWER.

Subdivision 1. **Partnership program.** (a) The partnership program may provide grants-in-aid to educational or other nonprofit training institutions using the following guidelines:

(1) the educational or other nonprofit institution is a provider of training within the state in either the public or private sector;

(2) the program involves skills training that is an area of employment need; and

(3) preference will be given to educational or other nonprofit training institutions which serve economically disadvantaged people, minorities, or those who are victims of economic dislocation and to businesses located in rural areas.

(b) A single grant to any one institution shall not exceed \$400,000.

Subd. 1a. **Pathways program.** The pathways program may provide grants-in-aid for developing programs which assist in the transition of persons from welfare to work. The program is to be operated by the board. The board shall consult and coordinate with the Job Training Partnership Act, Title II-A, program administrators at the department of economic security to design and provide services for temporary assistance for needy families recipients.

Pathways grants-in-aid may be awarded to educational or other nonprofit training institutions for education and training programs that serve public assistance recipients transitioning from public assistance to employment.

Preference shall be given to projects that:

(1) provide employment with benefits paid to employees;

(2) provide employment where there are defined career paths for trainees;

(3) pilot the development of an educational pathway that can be used on a continuing basis for transitioning persons from public assistance directly to work; and

(4) demonstrate the active participation of department of economic security workforce centers, Minnesota state college and university institutions and other educational institutions, and local welfare agencies.

Pathways projects must demonstrate the active involvement and financial commitment of private business. Pathways projects must be matched with cash or in-kind contributions on at least a one-to-one ratio by participating private business.

A single grant to any one institution shall not exceed \$200,000.

The board shall annually, by March 31, report to the commissioners of economic security and trade and economic development on pathways programs, including the number of public assistance recipients participating in the program, the number of participants placed in employment, the salary and benefits they receive, and the state program costs per participant.

Subd. 2. **Information.** The board may collect and disseminate information concerning areas of projected employment need. The board may also prepare and publish studies, organize conferences, and conduct special projects which will increase knowledge and communication in the areas of employment need, skills training, and education.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1987 c 403 art 2 s 164]

History: 1983 c 334 s 4,7; 1Sp1985 c 14 art 9 s 6; 1987 c 384 art 3 s 27; 1987 c 386 art 10 s 8; 1987 c 401 s 36; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 167,270; 1997 c 200 art 1 s 58,59

116L.05 FUNDING.

Subdivision 1. **Federal job training funds.** The board may use federal job training program moneys and is authorized to receive those funds.

Subd. 2. **Grants, gifts.** The board may accept gifts and grants of any type from any source.

Subd. 3. **Use of funds.** The job skills partnership board may use up to six percent of any funds it receives, regardless of the source, for activities authorized under section 116L.04, subdivision 2.

History: 1983 c 334 s 5,7; 1987 c 384 art 3 s 27; 1987 c 386 art 10 s 8; 1987 c 401 s 36; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 270; 1993 c 363 s 3

116L.06 HIRE EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Fund uses.** The job skills partnership board may make loans to Minnesota employers to train persons for jobs in Minnesota. The loans must be used to train current and prospective employees of an employer for specific jobs with the employer.

Subd. 2. **Loan process.** The board shall establish a schedule and competitive process for accepting loan applications. The board shall evaluate loan applications.

Subd. 3. **Loan priority.** The board shall give priority to loans that provide training for jobs that are permanent, provide health coverage and other fringe benefits, and have a career or job path with prospects for wage increases.

Subd. 4. **Loan terms.** Loans may be secured or unsecured, shall be for a term of no more than two years, and shall bear no interest. The maximum amount of a loan is \$250,000. A loan origination fee of up to two percent of the principal of the loan may be charged. An employer may have only one outstanding loan. The loans shall contain such other standard commercial loan terms as the board deems appropriate.

Subd. 5. **Loan uses.** Loans must be used by an employer to obtain the most cost-effective training available from public or private training institutions. An employer must document to the board the process the employer has utilized to ensure that the proposed loan is used to acquire the most cost-effective training and provide a training plan.

Subd. 6. **Packaging loans.** The board may package a grant it makes under section 116L.04 with a loan under this section.

Subd. 7. **Loan repayments.** Loan repayments and loan origination fees shall be retained by the board for board programs.

History: 1997 c 200 art 1 s 60