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## Press Release

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### **Youth Work Grant Applications Online; Due May 6**

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is accepting proposals to fund employment and training projects that prepare youth for career paths that lead to employment in Alaska's high demand occupations.

"We know that 80 percent of jobs in Alaska require post-high school training and education," Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. "The Workforce Investment Act Youth Program responds to Alaska's dropout rate, reduces dependency on welfare by providing skilled training and provides Alaska employers with a prepared workforce."

The federal grants, which are administered by the Division of Business Partnerships, will be for training from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Projects should offer a comprehensive approach to providing academic and occupational services, and leadership development to eligible low income youth ages 14 to 21.

"These grants are for youth workforce development that leads to on-the-job training, credential attainment, academic development, registered apprenticeships and employment in Alaska's high wage, high growth industries or postsecondary education," Business Partnerships Director Corine Geldhof said. "Non-profit or for-profit organizations, school districts, educators, industry trainers, employers and community services agencies with the capacity to facilitate innovative training and to build career awareness should apply."

Applications, which are due by 5 p.m. ADT on Friday, May 6, will be accepted through a web-based system known as EGrAMS. A tutorial showing a step-by-step process on how to use EGrAMS is available online at <http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/egram/>. For more information email [dbp.grants@alaska.gov](mailto:dbp.grants@alaska.gov) with "WIA Youth" in the subject line.

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#### **Business Partnerships**

<http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/>

#### **Workforce Investment Act Youth Program**

[http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/wia\\_youth.htm](http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/bp/wia_youth.htm)