



Maine's \$4.9 Million ARRA Health Sector Grant

Project Overview



The \$4.9 Million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded grant was awarded to the Maine Department of Labor in March 2010. Grant activities and timeline milestones specified in the original solicitation for grant funding are on track for successful outcomes by the February 2013 deadline.

Project Goal:

To increase the supply and employment of credentialed health care workers in high-demand occupations, specifically registered nurses (RN's), certified nursing assistants (CNA's), and allied health professionals.

Project Objectives:

Advance the credentials of 400 healthcare workers: 100 RN's; 100 allied health professionals; 200 CNA's

Reduce Maine's clinical training "bottleneck" by:

- a) Increasing the number of qualified RN clinical instructors;
- b) Increasing the availability and flexibility of clinical training facilities; and
- c) Training clinical instructors in the use of simulation equipment.

Improve access to information about health career pathways and training options.

Maintain and strengthen partnerships among Maine's employer, education, and workforce sectors to advance the development of a skilled health workforce

Overview of grant funded trainees as of October 1, 2011:

	Clinical Instructors	Bachelor's Degree Nurses	Associate's Degree Nurses	Allied Health Trainees	Certified Nursing Assistants	Non-Categorized Trainees	Totals
Trainees	44*	88	44	86	141	24	427
Statewide Targets	n/a	50	50	100	200	n/a	400
% OF TOTAL	n/a	154%	88%	86%	71%	n/a	107%

* includes 16 individuals pursuing master's degrees in clinical instruction and 28 individuals pursuing educational certificates as clinical nursing instructors

- 68% of trainees enrolled are incumbent employees; 32% are unemployed/underemployed individuals
- 29 employers have signed memorandum's of agreement and have received grant funds on behalf of 290 employees to help develop a higher skilled, better prepared and more competitive workforce
- Advancing incumbent employees will create openings for entry level "new hires"
- 10 innovative training pilot projects are underway; 3 additional projects are being considered

Additional information:

Maine's Health Sector Grant: www.mainecareercenter.com/workforce/hcgrant

Maine Health Workforce Forum: <http://www.mainehealthworkforceforum.org>

Career Pathways: www.myskillsmyfuture.org and www.mynextmove.org find out more about the skills needed to be successful in various professions; whether or not specific professions are predicted to be in high demand; what a job pays and locate education providers and current job openings.