

PA CareerLink Carbon County
69 Broadway
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
Ph: 570-325-2701
Fax: 570-325-5536
TTY: 570-325-7850
www.carboncareerlink.org

PA CareerLink Monroe County
Route 611/Merchants Plaza
Tannersville, PA 18372
Ph: 570-620-2850
Fax: 570-620-2868
TTY: 570-620-2854
www.monroecountycareerlink.org

CareerLink Services-Pike Cty
Shohola Business Center
837 Route 6
Shohola, PA 18458
Ph: 570-296-3869
Fax: 570-296-3533
www.pikepa.org/workforce.htm

CareerLink Services-Wayne Cty
Wayne County Employment & Training Center
314 10th Street
Honesdale, PA 18431
Ph: 570-253-1163
Fax: 570-253-7278
www.co.wayne.pa.us

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*For more information
about the Pennsylvania
Center for Green
Careers: Contact Steve
Wof at 717-705-8820 or
stewolf@state.pa.us.*

Pennsylvania Center for Green Careers

As documented in the recently released *The Pennsylvania Green Jobs Report, Part I*, **Pennsylvania is among the states with the highest number of green jobs**. Advanced workforce policies and wise investments have made the state a national leader in creating and fostering a green economy.

Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, **Pennsylvania was awarded \$6 million for green-career training**. To fully realize the strategic advantages, the Department of Labor & Industry, or L&I, has created the *Pennsylvania Center for Green Careers*, or PCGC, a part of the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board. Working together with L&I's *Center for Workforce Information & Analysis*, who received a \$1.25 million green labor market information improvement grant, the PCGC will work to identify green occupations which are the most in need and provide green training to fill those positions.

The Commonwealth will be divided into six *Regional Green Teams*. Teams will consist of representatives from green industries, training providers and workforce development professionals, and will **assess regional workforce needs and develop strategies to provide a skilled workforce for emerging green careers**. The teams will coordinate green career training efforts and will be responsible for recruitment, integration of supportive services, case management, job placement and retention strategies.

The PCGC will be the conduit for growth in the green careers sector. The skills and competencies gained through training: Enable workers to fill available jobs and acquire skill certifications which will provide quality assurance for employers, skill portability for workers, and maximum environmental benefit for the Commonwealth; Help low-income workers achieve and keep entry-level jobs, then receive support necessary to develop along a career pathway; Build employers' capacity to participate in new green markets, maximizing those industries' growth & creating export opportunities.

To ensure an industry-led approach to addressing the skill gaps necessary for today's and tomorrow's green workforce, the PCGC will seek advice from the employers in the Industry Partnerships across the state that have green occupations within their companies. One hundred Green Workforce Specialists will be trained and be available at each of the more than 67 PA CareerLink® offices, as well as each of the 22 local WIBs.

New Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development

Sandy Vito, Secretary of the Dept. of Labor & Industry, recently [welcomed Dr. Bob Garraty as the new Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development.](#)

Ms. Vito wrote in her announcement, "Most recently, Bob served as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board, where he worked with Board members to create powerful policy priorities and recommendations to the Governor on training, education, and employment strategies. He also knows first hand what it takes to run a local workforce investment area and to implement innovative programs designed to help businesses become more competitive and provide opportunities to job seekers. Bob's myriad experience going back to successful labor/management committees will serve him well in the Deputy position."

Secretary Vito concluded by saying, "With less than a year left in the administration, our challenge in the workforce arena is to institutionalize all of the good work workforce leaders—and Bob—have done over the last 7 years. Moreover, the challenging economic circumstances in which we currently live demand that we continue to innovate to best serve Pennsylvanians and Pennsylvanian's businesses. Bob has what it takes to lead that effort. [I hope you will join me in welcoming him.](#)"

Industry Partnership Legislation Passed

Secretary of Labor & Industry, Sandi Vito, praised the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for unanimously passing House Bill 2230 to establish Pennsylvania's industry partnerships under law.

She encouraged the Senate to promptly consider and pass the measure, which will help continue successful workforce programs that are creating a more highly skilled workforce.

"Pennsylvania's industry partnerships are a proven and valuable workforce and economic development tool that brings together businesses and workers in similar industries for the common purpose of improving the economic security of workers and the competitiveness of businesses in certain industries," Vito said.

[Industry partnerships can identify specific training needs and skill gaps, help connect young people to careers, help educational and training institutions arrange curriculum to meet business demands, address worker recruitment and retention, develop career ladders within companies, highlight best practices, and promote communication among companies.](#) Across Pennsylvania, nearly 6,200 employers from 20 industries are in 72 active industry partnerships; with more than 75,000 workers trained.

"Industry partnerships have become the cornerstone of our workforce development efforts in Pennsylvania, and I look forward to working with the Senate to make this program a permanent part of our economic future," Vito said. "The industry partnership initiative is a nationally recognized, award-winning initiative that advances workers' skills, increases employees' wages and improves our state's position as a national workforce and economic leader. [This is exactly the type of program we must continue to support in order to strengthen our economic recovery.](#)" For more information on industry partnerships, visit www.paworkforce.state.pa.us.



"PA's industry partnerships are a proven and valuable workforce and economic development tool."

Pennsylvania's Employment Situation—February 2010

Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was up 0.1 of a percentage point to 8.9 percent in February, the Department of Labor and Industry reported on March 18th.

The state remained below the national rate of 9.7 percent in February and has been at or below the national rate for 83 of the past 86 months. The state rate was up 1.7 percentage points from February 2009, while the U.S. rate was up 1.5 percentage points from a year ago.

Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted civilian labor force -- the number of people working or looking for work -- rose by 29,000 in February to 6,451,000, the highest level in 13 months. Resident employment rose by 18,000, while unemployment went up by 12,000. Over the year, Pennsylvania's labor force was nearly identical to its February 2009 level.

Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm job count fell by 16,000 in February. Eight of the 11 supersectors saw declines in February, with the biggest loss of 7,800 jobs in education and health services. Manufacturing added 1,600 jobs - the largest single-month increase in nearly three years.

Pennsylvania jobs were down 141,100, or 2.5 percent, since February 2009. The United States' job count was down by 3.3 million jobs, also a 2.5 percent over-the-year drop. For more information, visit www.paworkforce.state.pa.us.

"Manufacturing added 1,600 jobs—the largest single-month increase in nearly three years."

Career Quest 2010

CAREER Quest, Monroe County's largest Job Fair, will be held at Fernwood Hotel & Resort on **Tuesday, April 13, 2010 from 10 AM to 4PM**. The **PA CareerLink in Monroe County** will once again partner with the Pocono Mountains Media Group (Pocono Record) to sponsor the 8th Annual CAREER Quest.

This year we hope to register over sixty (60) local businesses with available job openings and seem to be on our way to reach that goal. Reservations started coming in ahead of last year's schedule. Many of the employers will be taking applications and possibly doing interviews right at their booth. In addition to local employers, a variety of educational providers will be on-site to showcase many of their programs that can assist job seekers in upgrading their existing skills in order to find their perfect career opportunity here in the Pocono region. This community event gives our local citizens the opportunity to obtain quality employment opportunities locally without having to commute too far from home.

CAREER Quest provides employers and educational providers with one of the best marketing tools to advertise their job openings, programs and gain company exposure. The simple equation is having the job seekers and the employers at one event to meet and greet. For those employers or educational providers interested in registering, contact the PA Careerlink at 570-620-2958 and we will be happy to send you a registration package.

CAREER Quest

News and Events...

Scholarship Opportunities
For Mathematicians or Scientists Who are
Willing to Teach!

Robert Noyce Scholarship Program
Full-Time Junior through Graduate Students
Earning a Degree in Math or Science

Sponsored by the PA State System of Higher
Education, Inc.

Application deadline: April 20 or October 20
Contact 717-720-4065

Wayne Economic Development Corporation
Invites you to attend their
ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

Thursday, April 15, 2010
Bryn Mawr Conference Center
Honesdale, PA

6PM Social Hour, 7PM Buffet
Keynote Speaker: Eugene Linscomb

RSVP by April 1st to WEDCO, 570-253-5334
\$80pp/\$580 table of 8



COMING SOON!!!!

CareerLink Employers will be able to access
INTERVIEW STREAM to conduct
“Virtual Job Fairs” - Watch Job Seekers’
interviews from the comfort of your office!



CAREER Quest

The 8th Annual CAREER Quest—A Job
Fair and More!—will be held on
April 13, 2010
At Fernwood Resort in Bushkill.

The Event will run from 10 AM - 4 PM.
If you are Looking for Employees or
Your Next Job...

THIS IS THE PLACE TO BE!

Employers---TO REGISTER
Please Call
570-620-2958.

Pennsylvania
CareerLink
MONROE COUNTY



POCONO MOUNTAINS MEDIA GROUP



Rt. 209 - Bushkill, PA 18324

Pocono Mountains Hospitality Scholarship Golf Tournament 2010

PA CareerLink Monroe County and
the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau
are hosting a Golf Tournament at
Skytop Lodge on June 23, 2010.
Interested in Sponsorship Packages or
golfing in the tournament?

Contact John Casella at 570-620-2960
*Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit
local students who will be entering post-
secondary education in the field of
Hospitality and Tourism.*