

Health Care ARRA Updates

ARRA – DOL Health Care Sector Grants – several applicants including WTB **Health Scholarship and Loan Repayment – HHS, HRSA** – HECB submitted but the application was not successful (our state already provides one of the highest matches in the country for this program, that may be part of the reason).

HITECH Grants – Health Care Authority is a state agency; Bellevue College has some training component (not yet awarded).

Several HHS, HRSA: some yet to be awarded others already awarded.

ARRA / DOL Health Care Sector Grants: \$250 million

- **Workforce Board lead applicant** – at request of SEIU775, SEIU1199, and the Health Workforce Institute
- **Main focus:** Nursing pathways online and at the workplace, apprenticeship for Home Health aid, pathways from home care to acute care – These are system changes building on the Hospital Employee Education and Training grant, overcoming adults barriers to education and employment).
 - o WDC partners include: Seattle King County, Snohomish, Olympic, North Central, Spokane, NW WDC.
 - o Variety of colleges including Olympic,
- South Central WDC was planning to work with hospital partners and apply - Allied Health.
- Pacific Mountain WDC submitted a grant with Olympic WDC.
- Washington State Nurses Association working on expanding Associate degree to Bachelors degree.
- Lake Washington Technical College worked on nursing and Allied Health.
- Southwest Washington is working with partners in Portland Oregon and submitted a grant.

Health Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program – through ARRA

Federal agency: Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services

Administration (submitted August 7)

The HECB applied to expand the Health Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program. Our state funds for that program now out number the federal funds due to increases over the past several years.

Federal portion: \$525,000

State portion is: \$4.34 million

Application was not successful. Note: Governor's budget proposes a \$1.25 million cut to this program (current total is about \$8.7 million per biennium).

Health Information Technology – The State Health Care Authority is state liaison “The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act is a section of the ARRA. It specifically outlines how the federal stimulus money will be used to advance the design, development, and operation of a nationwide health information infrastructure that promotes the electronic use and exchange of information.”

A variety of health care entities will have to update their technology over a phased in period of time (10 years). The element that relates to workforce is that Bellevue College is involved in training health care IT experts. They have an IT Center of Excellence and have submitted as part of this ARRA grant.