

South Dakota Department of Labor
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Labor Department receives stimulus funding to help older workers

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Labor (DOL) received \$164,588 in federal stimulus funds for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), an older worker job training program.

South Dakota is eligible for \$26.9 million for workforce programs through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

SCSEP, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, brings employment and training opportunities to older Americans across the nation. Currently, the program serves more than 300 seniors in South Dakota.

“Many issues face our older workers today,” said State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts. “The additional stimulus funding will help continue to provide job training, counseling and community service assignments.”

SCSEP is a community service and work-based training program for low-income people 55-years-old or older who have poor employment prospects. DOL receives the SCSEP grant and administers it through a sub grantee program, Experience Works.

“Participants are offered training opportunities in a variety of fields while they prepare to transition into full- or part-time employment,” said Secretary Roberts. Work sites include non-profit and public facilities such as daycare centers, senior centers, schools, hospitals and libraries.

Program participants work an average of 20 hours a week and are paid the highest of federal, state or local minimum wage, or the prevailing wage. “Health insurance is also included as benefit,” said Secretary Roberts.

To learn more, contact Experience Works at 605.332.7991 or visit DOL’s website at www.sdjobs.org.