



READY TO HIRE?

Are you ready to grow your business? Under Governor Corzine's leadership, New Jersey is offering a new program to make it easier for employers to hire new workers. The **RETURN-To-Work** initiative will reimburse employers for part of a new employee's wages, to offset the extraordinary costs of their on-the-job training.

RETURN-To-Work is designed to get long-term unemployed New Jerseyans back on the payroll. The workers eligible for this program have exhausted all available state and federal unemployment benefits. They're experienced members of the workforce who are ready to work for you.

Under the **RETURN-To-Work** program, any private-sector employer can be reimbursed for a portion of an eligible new employee's hourly wage rate for up to 12 weeks. You can receive a grant of up to \$2,400 to offset the costs of training a new staff person in a job with your business. Employers must guarantee employment for new workers in this program for at least 12 more weeks after receiving reimbursement.

RETURN-To-Work is a win-win program. You gain an employee with work experience and a grant to help with the costs of on-the-job training; your new hire gains a job and on-the-job training for their new position. **RETURN-To-Work** also facilitates matches between employers and job seekers, by directing qualified applicants with the appropriate skill sets to employers' job postings.

The fine print in plain language

- Employers are reimbursed for costs up to \$5 an hour toward the pay of a newly-hired worker, to partially defray the extraordinary costs of on-the-job training.
- Grants are capped at \$2,400 per new hire for up to 12 weeks
- Employers must pay new hires at least \$15 an hour
- Employers must retain new hires in employment for at least six months
- The new hire(s) must increase the employer's total employment head count (new hires cannot displace existing employees)
- Only employers with no open tax liabilities or delinquencies may participate

How it works

- Apply online at nj.gov/labor/employers
- We will notify eligible job seekers of your job opening and arrange for them to contact you
- You interview and hire a new employee, from any source, who has run out of unemployment benefits
- You complete the remaining online application, identifying the new-hire candidate(s) and spelling out the job duties and on-the-job training plan for each new worker
- After we approve the plan, you and your newly-hired worker complete the online application
- Your new hire joins your workforce at no less than \$15 per hour and receives up to 12 weeks of on-the-job training
- You submit an electronic invoice and get reimbursed for up to \$2,400
- You retain the newly-hired employee in the job for at least 12 more weeks

Governor Corzine's administration is working hard every day to connect businesses with good workers. You can find more information about this and other programs online at nj.gov/labor.



Jon S. Corzine
Governor

David J. Socolow
Commissioner

*Training grants to help you move from just surviving to **GROWING** your business*