



**U.S. Department of Labor
Disability Employment Initiative Cooperative Agreements**

Virginia

Grantee: Virginia Community College System

Location of Grant Activities: Ten Workforce Investment Boards (Southwest Virginia, Western Virginia, Piedmont Workforce Network, South Central, Northern Virginia, Alexandria/Arlington, Bay Consortium, Greater Peninsula, Crater Area, and West Piedmont)

Award Amount: \$2,915,779

Period of Performance: Three Years

Key Partnerships: Department of Rehabilitative Services, Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, Veterans Workforce Outreach Project, Mid-Atlantic ADA Center – Assistive Technology @ Work, TANF, Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program, Virginia Individual Development Accounts (VIDA) program.

Populations to be Served: Individuals with Disabilities

Project Description: The Virginia Community College System, the administrator of the Workforce Investment Act in Virginia, plans to increase employment and economic self-sufficiency of people with disabilities through increasing access to Virginia's One-Stop system, enhancing services, engaging employers, increasing the use of work incentives and asset development strategies, and growing the One-Stop system through use of the Social Security Administrations Ticket to Work Program and establishing Employment Networks in workforce areas. Virginia will be focusing primarily on adults with disabilities and will utilize strategic approaches that incorporate Integrated Resource Teams, leveraging resources through partnerships and collaboration, and promoting asset development approaches.

DEI flexible funding of 15% will be used as the "first dollar down" to leverage partner funds and services. The Virginia DEI will incorporate resource mapping in each workforce area to identify all available resources and career assessment vehicles to support the needs of the job seeker, and will assure quality services through the deployment of mystery shopper protocols. Participating Workforce Investment Boards will be fully engaged as Employment Networks under the Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work Program.

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