
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Delaware Workforce Investment Board



Grant amount: \$250,000

Grantee: Delaware Workforce Investment Board

Key partners: Delaware Technical and Community College, Delaware Economic Development Office, Delaware Department of Education, Agilent Technologies

Location of Grant Activities: Statewide in Delaware

Challenge

Biotechnology leaders have stressed the concern that teachers are not engaging students in activities that highlight careers in science or further the diverse employment opportunities within the biotechnology industry.

Addressing the Challenge

The Delaware Workforce Investment Board will engage the state education system and the biotech business community to enhance youth participation in life sciences through the Delaware-based Science in Motion and/or Agilent After School programs. The Science in Motion project will use two vans to transport science equipment to classrooms throughout the state. The vans are driven by experienced science instructors who assist the classroom teacher along with volunteer mentors in conducting laboratory activities. Classroom visits last 4 to 6 days.

The Agilent After School program is a hands-on science experience targeted at children ages 9 – 13. Agilent After School science kits contain all the materials for children to conduct science experiments such as building electronic circuit games, balloon-powered cars, terrariums, and more. Agilent employees and additional volunteer mentors from Delaware Technical and Community College will provide with all the tools and materials to lead the younger students through various science experiments.

Projected Outcomes

- Engage the broader education system and biotechnology business community to expose 1,500 youth to biotech/life sciences experiential learning opportunities.
- Create a pool of trained mentors that are integrated into existing science programs through Delaware Dept. of Education and Agilent Technologies.

