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**President's High Growth Job Training Initiative**  
*Kentucky's Demand-Driven Response to the Coal Industry  
Workforce Crisis*

**Grant Amount:** \$3,025,260

**Grantee:** The Pennyrile Area Development District

**Key Partners:** West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (CEP), The Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Madisonville Community and Technical College

**Leveraged Amount:** \$7,100,000 from the West Kentucky Workforce Area and Eastern Kentucky CEP, The Kentucky Community and Technical College System, private donations to Madisonville Community and Technical College, Alliance Coal, Charlais Coal, Peabody Coal, and James River Coal

**Location of Grant Activities:** Kentucky

**Challenge:**

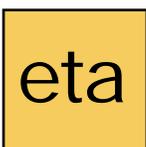
Kentucky's coal industry is facing a workforce crisis. Faced with an increasing demand for coal, the industry currently needs an estimated 3,500 additional miners in both skilled and entry-level positions. The workforce shortage is largely the result of a decades-long trend of fewer young workers pursuing mining careers and incumbent workers nearing retirement.

**Addressing the Challenge:**

This coal industry workforce project will create recruitment strategies and expedite employer-driven training options to address Kentucky's shortage of coal workers. The workforce system, in partnership with industry and the Kentucky community and technical college system will make recruitment materials available to One-Stop Career Center customers and youth about high-paying careers in coal mining. New and incumbent workers will gain real-time skills on mining simulators. Distance learning and mobile classrooms on work-sites will also be available. Additionally, this project will also establish a replicable model for delivering expedited, industry-specific training, especially to geographically scattered industries in rural areas.

**Project Outcomes:**

- The creation of a pipeline for the entrance of new miners into the industry via recruitment and expedited, industry-focused training;
- A positive impact on the economic conditions of citizens within coal communities due to increased wages of individuals within some of the most economically distressed counties of Kentucky; and
- Training delivery methods that target business-based demands in compact, certifiable, and replicable training segments.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Energy Industry Grant  
Announced on December 19, 2005*