

**National Farmworker Jobs Program  
Review of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker  
Employment and Training Programs  
Youth Evaluation**

**Abstract**

Background

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) contracted with the Aguirre Division of JBS International in August 2008 to conduct a review of the design of current programs serving Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) youth in light of ongoing changes in the labor market and in the U.S. farmworker population. The study follows up on a range of issues identified by the 2003 report of the White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth which identified migrant youth as one of the neediest groups of youth in the United States.

Methodology

The review will analyze available demographic data on this service population and current services provided through the National Farmworker Jobs Program and One-Stop Career Centers in areas with a large relative number of migrant farmworkers. It will also review the authorizing language for these programs, relevant regulations, and other factors which may affect the National Farmworker Jobs Program's responsiveness to the population needs. In addition to the broad review of ETA's policy and planning framework for services to MSFW youth, the study will examine strategic opportunities for multi-program collaboration to meet the population's needs and types of technical assistance which might be most useful in enhancing the programs' services to these youth.

Study activities will include:

- Site visits with a small sample of NFJP programs serving MSFW youth to discuss their experiences and perspectives. Site visits will also include discussions with programs providing health, legal, and education-related services;
- Analyses of the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) data and other sources regarding the changing demographics of the migrant stream;
- Review of available MIS data and quarterly program reports of grantees to examine services currently provided to MSFW youth in general and sub-groups within this population;
- Review of the research literature relevant to effectively responding to this population's needs; and
- Discussions with MSFW youth themselves, their parents, and others in farmworker communities about their service needs—in focus groups and semi-structured one-on-one interviews.

Status

The evaluation team is in the process of identifying site visit locations, making contact with non-governmental stakeholders, and finalizing the research methodology. The final report will be completed by April 2009.