
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative
Pennsylvania Mine Training and Placement Center



Grant Amount: \$503,210

Grantee: The Pennsylvania State University

Key Partners: Consol Energy and Foundation Coal Company

Leveraged Amount: \$572,670

Location of Grant Activities: Uniontown, Pennsylvania

Challenge:

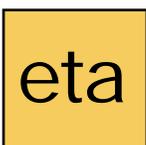
As a result of increased energy demands from world markets and continued emphasis on coal for electric power generation, the coal industry in Pennsylvania and surrounding states is experiencing a corresponding and immediate surge in coal-mining employment opportunities. Additionally, coal companies are facing an immediate shortage of experienced, qualified workers due to rising retirement rates.

Addressing the Challenge:

Penn State University, along with its partners, will develop an Associate of Engineering Technology Degree in Mining Technology to meet local employment needs. The program will give students an opportunity to learn to operate today's sophisticated mining equipment through the use of simulators. This approach also will enable workers to learn valuable safety skills before entering the mining work environment.

Project Outcomes:

- Train 20 students in each year of the grant, and establish the capacity to enroll 30 students annually thereafter;
- Develop a method to evaluate the associate degree model, thus facilitating replication; and
- 100 percent pass rate among graduates taking the state certification exams for mine electrician or mine foreman.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Energy Industry Grant
Announced on December 19, 2005*