
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative
Hospitality Business Alliance/ProStart School-to-Career



Grant amount: \$1,765,000

Grantee: National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation

Leveraged amount: \$5.9 million cash and in-kind support from participating states and restaurants

Location of Grant Activities: Nationwide

Challenge:

Lack of awareness about restaurant career ladders, lack of industry-standard training and certification, high turnover, and significant language barriers among employees all pose severe challenges for restaurant employers.

Addressing the Challenge:

Hospitality Business Alliance (HBA)/ProStart's primary objective is to increase overall restaurant industry participation in the project while enhancing the quality of the work experiences offered to targeted worker populations, increasing workers' productive careers in restaurants, and creating an economically stronger and more competitive industry. Through this project, NRAEF is helping the restaurant industry attract, support, guide, train, and teach current and future workers. The HBA/ProStart project cultivates new sources of talent for the industry through the creation of a national system of state hospitality partnerships, which are dedicated to the establishment of high school hospitality School-to-Career programs and industry mentoring programs that lead to an industry-recognized national certificate.

Projected Outcomes:

- The ProStart program has enrolled 34,000 students in 41 states.
- Over 4,000 students from 958 schools are working in the restaurant/hospitality industry while enrolled in the ProStart program.
- 198 post-secondary schools have articulation agreements with ProStart.
- \$450,000 in scholarships were awarded to qualified ProStart students in the 2002-2003 school year.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Hospitality Industry Demonstration Grant
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