



Incumbent Worker Training Program

The Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWT) provides grant funding for customized training to existing for-profit businesses of all sizes. IWT, a popular resource for Florida's small businesses, helps businesses retain employees, and maintain and increase competitiveness through skills-upgrade training for existing full-time employees. Workforce Florida, Inc. administers the program. The program is structured to be flexible to meet the businesses' training objectives and allows them to use public, private or in-house training providers based on the nature of the training.

The Incumbent Worker Training Program has provided customized training for almost 93,000 employees for nearly 900 businesses throughout Florida since 2000.

Program Requirements

Existing Florida businesses applying for an IWT grant must:

- Have been in operation in Florida for at least one year prior to application date
- Have at least one full-time employee
- Demonstrate financial viability and be current on all state tax obligations

Funding priority given to businesses:

- With 25 or fewer employees
- Located in a distressed Rural Area, Urban Inner-City Area or Enterprise Zone
- In qualified targeted industries
- Whose grant proposals represent a significant layoff avoidance strategy
- Whose grant proposals represent a significant upgrade in employee skills

Reimbursable training expenses:

- Instructors/trainers' salaries/tuition
- Curriculum development
- Textbooks/manuals

Contact Pinellas County Economic Development at (727) 464-8119 or siteselect@pinellascounty.org to learn more about how the IWT program can help train your staff and grow your business.