

The Department of Labor

Media contact: 202-693-4676
FY2011 Request: \$14 billion
FY2010 Enacted: \$14.3 billion

The President's Budget provides \$14 billion for the Department of Labor (DOL) to prepare workers for good jobs that will allow them to support their families; guarantee fair, safe, and healthy workplaces and secure retirements for America's workers; and fulfill its other core responsibilities.

Prepare Workers for 21st Century Jobs

- Reform of the Workforce Investment Act, which accounts for \$10 billion of funding in the Departments of Labor and Education and supports almost 3,000 One-Stop Career Centers nationwide and a range of other services.
- \$261 million for two new innovation funds that will support and test promising approaches to job training and encourage states and localities to improve services.
- \$85 million for green job training, providing support for about 14,000 participants.
- \$40 million for transitional jobs programs to help individuals with multiple barriers to employment.

Make Our Workplaces Safer and More Fair to Workers

- \$25 million and 100 additional enforcement personnel for the Labor Department, in conjunction with Treasury, to identify and penalize employers who improperly misclassify employees as independent contractors. As part of this, the Budget funds competitive grants to boost states' incentives and capacity to address this problem.
- \$1.7 billion – a \$67 million increase – for the Labor Department's worker protection agencies to make sure they have the resources to meet their responsibilities under the more than 180 laws they enforce.
 - \$573 million for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, an increase of \$14 million, a portion of which will be used to add 60 enforcement staff and conduct 9 percent more inspections.
 - An additional \$7 million to allow the Employee Benefits Security Administration to hire additional Benefits Advisors and research staff to address the growing number of calls from the public and a significantly greater demand for regulatory guidance, outreach, education, and assistance on employer-provided health and retirement benefits.

Protect Benefits and Expand Opportunities for Our Families

- Create a system of automatic workplace pensions that will expand access to tens of millions of workers who currently lack pensions. Under the proposal, employers who do not currently offer a retirement plan will be required to enroll their employees in a direct-deposit IRA account. Employees may opt-out. Small firms of 10 employees or less would be exempt.
- Double the tax credit for small employers to offer a qualified retirement plan to their workers, from \$500 to \$1,000 per year, for a maximum of three years.
- Expand the Saver's Tax Credit to provide a 50 percent match on the retirement savings of families that earn less than \$85,000 (up to \$1,000 of savings would be matched).
- Expand families' access to paid leave through a new \$50 million fund to help states launch paid-leave programs cover their start-up costs.
- Boost funding and propose legislative changes that together would reduce improper unemployment insurance payments by more than \$4 billion and employer tax evasion by \$300 million over 10 years.

High-Priority Performance Goals

The Administration is committed to building a transparent, high-performance government capable of addressing the challenges of the 21st century. As part of developing the budget, every department identified high-priority performance goals (along with the strategies and in-house resources to achieve them) that each will work to accomplish over the next two years. Highlights of this department's goals are:

- Reduce fatalities resulting from common causes by two percent in Occupational Safety and Health Administration-covered workplaces and by five percent in mining sites per year.
- Increase the percent of prior violators who remain in compliance with the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to 75 percent in FY 2011 from 66 percent in FY 2009.
- By the end of FY 2011, improve worker rights and livelihoods for vulnerable populations in at least eight developing country trading partners.
- Create a model return-to-work program to reduce lost production day rates by one percent per year and reduce injury and illness rates by at least four percent per year in FY 2010 and FY 2011.
- By June 2012, increase by 10 percent the number of WIA, Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), and Community-Based Job Training program completers who receive training and attain a degree or certificate.
- Train over 120,000 Americans for green jobs by June 2012.

To see the Department's full set of performance information, please visit:
www.dol.gov/dol/aboutdol/main.htm.