



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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Lanza Announces \$10.3 Million Federal Grant to Help Unemployed New Yorkers Accelerate Their Job Searches

ANDREW J LANZA May 11, 2012

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Award is the Largest in the Nation and Will Fund Job Coaches at 53 Career Centers

New York State has received \$10.3 million from the U.S. Department of Labor as part of its Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) initiative. The grant will help the state provide individualized job search and training services to individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits in order to get unemployed New Yorkers back to work as quickly as possible. New York's grant was the largest among the 42 that were awarded nationwide, as recognition of the success of the state's One-Stop Career Centers.

The federal grant will be used to support 115 existing job coaches and add 20 more at 53 One-Stop Career Centers across the state. Job coaches work aggressively to review the local labor market, reach out to businesses with job openings listed on the Governor's Jobs Express website (www.jobs.ny.gov) and be the link between unemployed New Yorkers and businesses looking to hire. A comprehensive skills assessment is also done with every jobseeker to determine and provide immediate training needs. Past REA grants have resulted in jobseekers connecting to jobs an average of up to two weeks sooner.

New York State received the largest grant in recognition of its leadership in developing an aggressive reemployment model that requires unemployed individuals to visit career centers, undergo skills assessment and receive personalized attention, all in an effort to get them back to work sooner. New York's reemployment model has been cited by USDOL as an example for other states to follow. The One-Stop Career Centers are part of a series of initiatives launched to assist unemployed New Yorkers, including the NY Works initiative, Jobs Express Website, NY Youth Works Program, career fairs across the state, and grants to help communities hit hard by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee hire temporary workers.

The state's One-Stop Career Centers helped more than 400,000 New Yorkers find work in 2011. New Yorkers can find a One-Stop Career Center here: <http://labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/osview.asp>