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STATE OF MONTANA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 26, 2014

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Montana Receives \$5.125 Million Grant for Job Training Efforts

HELENA – Governor Steve Bullock today announced that the state of Montana has secured a \$5.125 million competitive grant to assist in job-training programs for long-term unemployed Montanans. The grant comes from the Job-Driven National Emergency Grant program of the U.S. Department of Labor.

“With more than 11,000 new jobs created in Montana since the beginning of the year, it is clear that our economy is on the move, however many Montanans still are struggling to earn the skills to compete in our changing economy,” Governor Steve Bullock said. “This grant will allow us to address the needs of these Montanans, while equipping them with the skills and experience that will allow them to secure a job that allows them to provide for themselves and their families.”

This grant, which will be administered through the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, will rely heavily on the use of on the job training and apprenticeships, and re-training of long-term unemployed Montanans. It will provide long-term unemployed Montanans with the opportunity to earn money while learning valuable skills that will assist them in finding permanent employment.

The grant will build upon the relationships that were established as part of the \$25 million [TAACCCT Grant SWAMMEI](#) that Montana secured in 2013. This grant brought together 13 Montana colleges and more than 80 employers from across the state, to develop curricula that align the skills being taught at these colleges, with the skills that are most in demand in the workplace.

In addition, this grant will streamline the process for Montanans to sign up for workforce programs, and eliminate the duplication of data collection. This will be done by creating an “Integrated Workforce Registration System” (IWR) which will serve as the virtual front door for those seeking workforce programs and unemployment insurance.

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