



SEARCH

State's economy may be turning around

Tuesday, October 13, 2009 | 10:43 PM

Story Media Top Stories

HOME

- ABC12 NEWS
- MOST POPULAR
- LOCAL NEWS
- MICHIGAN NEWS
- NATION/WORLD
- SCHOOL CLOSINGS
- MONEY SOURCE
- HEALTHFIRST
- SPORTS
- HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- POLITICS
- BUSINESS
- BIZARRE NEWS

WEATHER

39°
P/SUNNY

- WEATHER FORECAST
- FIRST ALERT RADAR
- WATCHES/WARNINGS
- MORE TOPICS +

VIDEO & PHOTOS

- VIDEO
- PHOTOS
- SEND TIPS, VIDEO, PICS

MENU

- WIDGETS
- OBITUARIES
- MY ABC12
- AUTOMOTIVE
- MR. FOOD
- MORE TOPICS +

MARKETPLACE

- MID-MICHIGAN JOBS
- CLASSIFIEDS
- GET COUPONS



State's economy may be turning around

No Worker Left Behind has enrolled more than 100,000 laid-off workers

WATCH VIDEO SHARE VIDEO 1 of 1

No Worker Left Behind has enrolled more than 100,000 laid-off workers

12 By Kristen Abraham
 BAY COUNTY (WJRT) -- (10/13/09)--Tuesday brought an encouraging sign that Michigan's economy is turning around.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced No Worker Left Behind has enrolled more than 100,000 laid-off workers. That's well beyond its initial goal.

A Delta College program called "Fast Start" is helping workers retool into a new career. The governor was on hand for graduation day at the Bay County community college.

Fast Start has a 93 percent placement rate.

E-Mail story Print

Comment

Share

- Add this article to Facebook
- Digg this Article
- Add this article to Delicious
- Get our free widget

Related Links

- Click here to go to our Facebook page
- Follow us on Twitter

Adam Helmer finished Delta College's Fast Start program after being laid off in April. Working as a mechanic for six years, he is now trained to be a chemical process operator.

"Before the end of the program, I already had two job offers from Dow Corning and Hemlock Semi," he said. "That was a new one for me. Here, I could choose."

Helmer shared his story with Granholm. The 16-week program is funded by No Worker Left Behind.

"We want to steer people to the kinds of training that will end getting them jobs and that's what this is all about," Granholm said.

Fast Start continues to grow to it's fourth class. Ken Gawlak of Bay City enrolled in September after spending 10 years in the automotive industry.

"There are resources and opportunities out there," he said. "You only have to open your mind and eyes to them."

Fast Start partners with Michigan Works! and area employers like Dow Corning and Evergreen Solar.

The governor says a report that was issued Tuesday shows that between now and 2016, there will be 650,000 mid-level skilled jobs available.

[Find out what everyone else is viewing on abc12.com](#)
[More Mid-Michigan and Flint news](#)	[ABC12 News at a glance](#)
[abc12togo.com wireless](#)	[Get us on your iPhone](#)
[ABC12 Desktop Alert Tool](#)	[abc12.com newsletters](#)
[Visit us on Facebook](#)	[Report a typo](#)
[Follow us on Twitter](#)	

Comment on this story below and we may read what you have to say on the air.

(Copyright ©2009 WJRT-TV/DT. All Rights Reserved.)

[Post A Comment](#)