

NONTRADITIONAL CAREER RESOURCE CENTER



NEW JERSEY MODEL PROGRAMS

In order to further its mission of increasing interest and awareness of nontraditional careers, the Nontraditional Career Resource Center (NCRC) at the Center for Women and Work is looking for Model Programs in the state of New Jersey. These are programs that have had demonstrated success in recruiting or retaining students in nontraditional fields, or in building awareness of nontraditional career options.

WHAT IS A NONTRADITIONAL CAREER/ FIELD?

The US Department of Labor defines a nontraditional career as any occupation where one gender comprises 25% or less of those employed (for a complete list of these occupations, you can visit the NCRC website at <http://ncrc.rutgers.edu>). When we consider nontraditional fields in education, we look at areas where there is a significant gender skew in enrollments either early on or at more advanced levels of study, that lead to careers in these fields. Four examples that the NCRC include in its focus are the building trades for women; nursing and allied health for men; some science, technology and engineering fields for women; and elementary and early childhood education for men.

Awardees will be honored at a reception in November 2005 and information about their programs will be hosted on the Nontraditional Career Resource Center's award-winning website. Programs will also be highlighted in the Center for Women and Work's Newsletter.

The Nontraditional Career Resource Center is funded through the New Jersey Department of Education to provide programs and services that increase interest and awareness of opportunities in nontraditional careers for 7th through 12th grade students.

GENERAL CRITERIA:

DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS: Programs must have data (quantitative or qualitative) to support that they have achieved their mission of increasing nontraditional participation, or awareness of nontraditional options. This could include items such as *enrollment numbers, survey results, personal impact through testimony, pre-and post-test results*, etc. Included in this can also be cultural or behavioral changes which would provide a more welcoming environment.

REPLICABLE: One of the goals of the Model Program Award is to be able to share these successful models with the rest of the state so other organizations or institutions can implement their own versions. For this reason, programs must be replicable. Awardees will be asked to share their knowledge on program development with other institutions, including tips for starting their own program.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAMS. These are programs that afford actual hands-on experience in a nontraditional field to youth and/or adults. Examples include apprenticeship programs, internships or job-shadowing, and work-based learning opportunities. Programs in this area should engage the participants over time.

AWARENESS PROGRAMS. This category is for programs whose mission is to increase awareness of opportunities in nontraditional careers. This would include a nontraditional career day program, a poster or similar media campaign, or a school or institution-wide workshop.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION PROGRAMS. This category is for programs that have instituted system-wide changes in their recruitment and retention strategies that have led to an increase in nontraditional participation.

PROMISING MODELS. Although one important criteria of a model program is its demonstrated success in achieving its mission, the NCRC recognizes that newer programs may not have demonstrated success as described above. Programs in this category will have demonstrated potential for success.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

All types of education and workforce development organizations as well as employers in fields that might be considered nontraditional. These include public and private schools, community-based organizations, unions, businesses and corporations, and government agencies.

SUBMISSION PROCESS AND DEADLINES:

Applications are due by October 14, 2005, and may be submitted electronically via email to ncrc@rutgers.edu or mailed to the address listed below. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

NCRC Model Programs
391 George Street, 3rd floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Notification will be made to all applicants by November 4, 2005. An awards ceremony will be held in November. A listing of all winning programs will be available at <http://ncrc.rutgers.edu>.

APPLICATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE AT [HTTP://NCRC.RUTGERS.EDU](http://ncrc.rutgers.edu), OR CALL JEANNE DUPREE AT 732-932-5472 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



NONTRADITIONAL CAREERS MODEL PROGRAMS APPLICATION

Please complete the following information regarding the program:

Program Title: _____

Award Category (choose one):

Awareness

Experiential Learning

Promising Models

Recruitment/Retention

Sponsoring School/Organization/Government Department: _____

Contact person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Web Address (if any): _____

What is the Program's mission?

What population does it serve? (Please include relevant demographics such as age/grade levels, gender, racial and ethnic backgrounds, geographic locales, etc.)

How frequently does the program occur (e.g. weekly, monthly, annually)? How many people does the program serve?

How long had the program been in existence?

On a separate sheet, provide a description of the program's goals and content. Include support for meeting the "demonstrated success" criteria listed on the preceding pages (you may attach items). If this is a Promising Model program, include whatever information you've collected regarding evaluation.

