



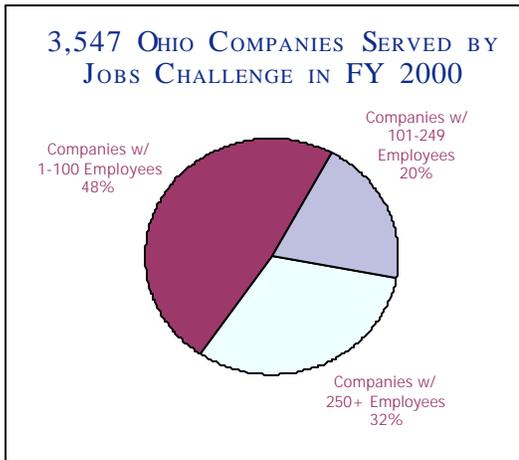
OHIO BOARD  
OF REGENTS

# POLICY BRIEF JOBS CHALLENGE

## WHAT IS JOBS CHALLENGE?

Jobs Challenge is a program administered by the Ohio Board of Regents. Jobs Challenge:

- Addresses critical workforce training needs of Ohio businesses
- Provides employers access to affordable assessment and training services
- Improves the competitiveness of Ohio business through employee training and assessment
- Attracts, develops and retains companies strategically important to the state's economy



## WHY JOBS CHALLENGE?

- Jobs Challenge makes employee training affordable!
- Jobs Challenge recognizes that continuous employee training is critical to business success. Continuous employee training is indispensable in an ever-changing technological world.
- Jobs Challenge provides two-year campuses funds to deliver quick, responsive and customized employee training.
- Jobs Challenge increases Ohio's competitiveness in attracting and maintaining businesses and industries vital to the state's economic success.
- Jobs Challenge has enabled Ohio to start competing effectively against other states that have long supported their two-year campuses in providing job training.

## HOW DOES OHIO'S ECONOMY BENEFIT FROM JOBS CHALLENGE?

- In 2000, 3,547 companies received training and assessment services through Jobs Challenge.
- 168,216 employed persons and 8,490 unemployed individuals received services through Jobs Challenge in 2000.
- A recent study by the American Society for Training & Development found total stockholder return increased by 6% at companies that annually spent \$680 above the national average for employee training. These companies had a total stockholder return of 37% compared to a 20% return for companies investing below the average.

## HOW DOES JOBS CHALLENGE WORK?

Jobs Challenge funds are divided into four components:

- The 53 EnterpriseOhio Network Campuses each receive a uniform **Performance Grant** of about \$53,000 to provide basic support for their operations. In return, they commit to certain performance standards, with an emphasis on helping small businesses.
- Workforce Development Incentive Grants** are distributed to the same campuses as a match for the revenues they receive from third party entities for non-credit job-related training. The more non-credit job-related training a campus provides, the greater share of incentive funds it receives from the state.
- EnterpriseOhio campuses and businesses must collaborate to apply jointly for **'Targeted Industries' Grants**. These grants have been provided for training of employees in manufacturing and information technology.
- A new program, **Adult Workforce Centers**, is recommended beginning in FY 2002 to promote additional K-16 collaboration in the provision of coordinated, comprehensive training to local employers.

