

# Fuel Your Business

with subsidized  
employee wages from

*Mississippi*  
**STEPS**

*Subsidized Transitional Employment Program & Services*



# Joint Venture Between Mississippi Department of Employment Security and Mississippi Department of Human Services

**M | D | E | S**

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT *of* EMPLOYMENT SECURITY



# Mississippi *STEPS* Goals

- Increase employment in Mississippi
- Provide an incentive to employers to hire workers
- Promote sector strategy initiatives
- Assist Dislocated Workers return to work

# Governor Haley Barbour

“All Mississippi businesses are encouraged to take advantage of this limited opportunity which will aid employers, particularly small businesses, in meeting workforce needs while providing employment for thousands of Mississippians.”



# Employer Qualifications

- Mississippi based employer
- Offer a permanent job
- Have Workers Compensation coverage for workers or be self-insured if required by law.
- Accounting system in place

# Participant Eligibility

- Must be a member of a family
- Family must have a child under 18 years of age
- Must meet the 250% Poverty Guideline

# Federal Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

1	\$27,075
2	\$34,425
3	\$45,775
4	\$55,125
5	\$64,475
6	\$73,825
7	\$83,175
8	\$92,525

\*For families with more than 8 persons, add \$3,740 for each additional person. Amounts are subject to increase.

# Occupational Eligibility And Prohibitions

MS STEPS may not be utilized for the following :

- Occupations dependent on commission or draw
- Intermittent seasonal occupations
- Part time or temporary occupations
- Any occupation which is illegal or controversial in nature including but not limited to bartending and adult entertainment

# Occupational Eligibility And Prohibitions

MS STEPS may not be utilized for the following :

- To fill a vacancy due to layoff or hiring freeze
- When there is a layoff in the same or equivalent job
- Terminated employment with intention of filling vacancy with STEPS funds
- To employ individuals under the age of 18

# Employer Benefits

- Maximum Reimbursement for 1040 Hours
- Six Month Subsidized Wage and Benefits Reimbursement
  - Months one and two – 100%
  - Month three – 75%
  - Month four and five – 50%
  - Month six – 25%



**Questions?**

# For additional information please contact

- Your nearest WIN job Center
- Visit the MDES website [www.mdes.ms.gov](http://www.mdes.ms.gov)  
or
- Call the MDES Call Center 1-888-844-3577  
and select option 5 to speak with a  
representative about the MS STEPS program

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