

How Can Employers Qualify for WOTC?

The Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit provides up to \$4,000 in credits for hiring hard to serve job seekers such as:

- Felons convicted or released within one year of hire.
- Welfare/TANF recipients
- Veterans who are food stamp recipients
- Disabled Veterans
- Disabled persons who are using vocational rehabilitation services
- Food Stamp recipients
- SSI recipients

Specifics of this program are available at www.coworkforce.com/emp/taxcredits.asp

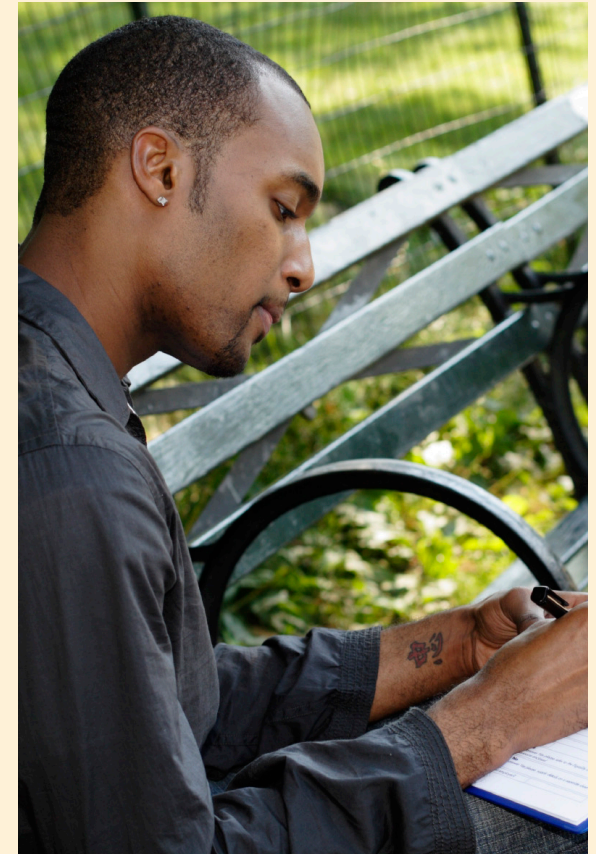
The Federal Bonding Program provides employers with insurance coverage at no cost to the employer as an incentive to hire hard to place applicants such as ex-offenders. The fidelity bond can be requested from any Colorado Workforce Center. Visit www.coworkforce.com/emp/federal_bonding_program.asp for more information.



GROWDENVER
The Office of Economic Development

Denver's Road Home
Employment Subcommittee
Nancy Rider & Lynda Drake, Co-Chairs
1200 Federal Blvd.
Denver, CO 80204
(720) 944-2786
nancy.rider@denvergov.org
lynda.drake@bayaudenterprises.org

The Benefits to Employers for Hiring the Homeless



**Employment
Assistance
& Support**



GROWDENVER
The Office of Economic Development

Denver's Road Home
ENDING HOMELESSNESS, RESTORING HOPE
Employment Subcommittee

91 PERCENT

of Colorado's Homeless were temporarily or episodically homeless people who had a life-changing event that left them without homes.

What are the benefits to hiring a homeless job seeker?

1. Job seekers enrolled with Denver Road Home (DRH) Employment Sub-Committee Members have Case Managers to support their employment goals and employer needs.
2. DRH Employment Subcommittee Member Organizations can guarantee a basic reading and math level set by the employer.
3. Some of our members can also offer wage subsidies to employers.
4. We also can guarantee that our job seekers have:
 - Basic computer skills
 - Resumes
 - Life skills training
 - Job readiness
 - Job matching
 - Pre-screening for qualified job seekers
 - Employer/job seeker support
 - Job seeker has clothes, tools, and transportation for the job
5. Job seekers working with collaborating DRH agencies have an employment retention rate of 73% over a nine-month period.

Success Stories

1. Employers like Environmental Safety, Inc., state that "These are some of my best workers. They are loyal, show up on time, show up every day. If I have a problem, I have a case manager I can call. They really help the employee stay on track."
2. David is an Honorably Discharged Veteran who also has a felony. He was discharged from prison as homeless. At his wits end, he was ready to go back to prison. He couldn't find a job or housing. Through collaboration with Turnabout, DenverWorks, Denver Workforce Center, and The Homeless Veterans Reentry Program, he received training, housing, transportation, clothing, and a job. He now works for a company where he developed one of the best energy efficiency training programs in the state.
3. Blake was homeless had some construction skills, but could not find work. Bayaud Enterprises provided him with a bus pass and wage subsidy with an employer for four months. Empowerment helped him with obtaining an apartment. The Homeless Initiative at Denver Workforce Centers helped him with the job lead (which included upgraded training). The employer provided him with tools. He is now making \$15.75 an hour.

What if the homeless job seeker has a felony?

1. If you are hiring an offender, Colorado law (HB10-1023) provides clarity and eases concerns for employers. This law prohibits an employee's criminal history from being part of a lawsuit against a business unless that criminal history has direct applicability to the legal action. To view the language of this law, visit <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>.
2. Through the referral process of the DRH Employment Subcommittee members, ex-offenders can have access to job readiness, life skills, support services, and skills training.
3. Additionally, many ex-offenders are required to undergo random drug testing as well. When an ex-offender has a parole/probation officer or is under supervision, the supervisor/officer is a contact person and resource for the employer.

