

For Immediate Release

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Free Event Aims to Boost Business and Spark Hiring

September 1, 2010 – Lisle, Illinois On Thursday, October 7, 2010, at 8:00 a.m., the DuPage County Workforce Development Division will host a free business information session, designed to arm local businesses with financial options that can also help the local economy and workforce. This event, the first in a series of free information sessions at the workNet DuPage Career Center, will feature information about tax credits and low interest loans that can help businesses save money, and in the process increase hiring.

"An economy like this presents challenges to employers as well as job seekers," said Sue Clark, Director of the DuPage County Workforce Development Division. "Right now everybody is waiting for someone to make the first move - for credit markets to ease up, for consumers to start buying, or for employers to start hiring. These tax credits and below-market rate loans can give a boost to local businesses, which hopefully can then hire area job seekers, and help our economy."

Illinois' unemployment rate persists at over 10%, consumer spending remains down, and businesses are facing restricted access to credit. However, loan programs such as Employ Illinois, and tax credits such as the Small Business Job Creation Tax Credit and the Work Opportunity Tax Credit offer assistance and incentives to businesses that can help their bottom line, and also help unemployed workers return to the workforce. These programs will be addressed at the upcoming business information session.

Debbie Meyers-Martin, Employ Illinois Program Coordinator for the State Treasurer's Economic Opportunity Division, will be speaking at the information session. She noted, "It is important to provide resource information to businesses in this economy, and while not every business can take advantage of the programs, no one would benefit if they were not aware that these resources existed."

This event is free to area businesses. For more information please contact Brian Tibbs at 630.955.2067 or btibbs@worknetdupage.org.

About workNet DuPage Career Center – workNet DuPage Career Center houses DuPage County Workforce Development Division (WDD) and offers employment and career services to local job seekers. WDD also offers workforce development services to local businesses, aiming to build connections between business and the local workforce. www.worknetdupage.org