
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

CONTACT: DWD Communications, 608-266-2722

On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WIWorkforce>

On Twitter: @WIWorkforce

DWD Announces Intent to Contract with Burning Glass Technologies to Help Wisconsin Enhance Labor Market Information System

*Cutting-edge system part of **Wisconsin Fast Forward** initiative to move state economy forward*

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced its intent to award a contract to Burning Glass Technologies to help the state enhance and transform its Labor Market Information System into a state-of-the-art, cutting-edge system that will serve as a national model for modern workforce delivery systems in connecting job seekers with openings that employers need to fill.

“In Wisconsin, we are committed to addressing the skills gap and, thanks to Governor Walker’s vision and the Legislature’s near-unanimous support, we are pursuing 21st century solutions that can help Wisconsin revolutionize its workforce service delivery system,” Secretary Reggie Newson said. “With technology, training and accurate data, we can address the skills gap and provide employers, job seekers, educators, and others with reliable, real-time data to make important economic decisions,” Secretary Newson said.

DWD on Monday issued a written notice of intent to award to Burning Glass Technologies and will proceed with contract negotiations to enhance Wisconsin’s current labor market information system. Burning Glass Technologies, of Boston, was the highest-scoring bidder in the competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process set forth under state procurement laws and regulations.

Contract negotiations will cover potential enhancements to several of Wisconsin’s existing web-based labor market exchange systems, including:

- **JobCenterofWisconsin.com**, the Job Center of Wisconsin’s online employment exchange to connect employers in Wisconsin and bordering counties with registered job seekers and make a variety of tools and resources available at no cost, 24 hours a day.
- **JobNet Business**, used by DWD and partners to manage employer contacts, services and job orders on JobCenterofWisconsin.com.
- **WORKnet**, the state’s labor market information system that makes a variety of labor market data series, programs and resources available to the public.
- **Automated System Support for Employment and Training (ASSET)**, a web-accessible data reporting and collection system used by workforce partners and serves as a data source for federally required performance and program management data.

DWD issued the RFP on February 21. Vendor proposals were due April 5 and underwent a comprehensive, fair and objective team review process as outlined under state procurement laws. DWD also has notified unsuccessful bidders, who by law have the opportunity to review and protest the evaluation team’s decision.

The labor market information system enhancements are part of Wisconsin Fast Forward, which includes \$15 million in state-funded training grants to be administered by the new Office of Skills Development.