Partnering to Meet the Talent Needs of the Insurance and Financial Services Industry











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## Insurance & Financial Services Industry in CT: Concentrated and Growing

- \$47 Billion Industry + an official Cluster
- 143,000 People Employed (8% CT; 11% in hubs)
- \$12 Billion in Annual Wages
- Major HQ & Operations Centers include:

St. Paul Travelers

Aetna

Cigna

The Hartford

UBS

RBS

NASDAQ



# Insurance & Financial Services Industry in CT: Competing for Talent in a Tight Market

Unemployment

<u>Jan.'07</u>

Connecticut

4.0%

Stamford-Bridgeport LMA

4.4% (STM 3.2%)

Hartford LMA

5.2%



All Sectors Financial Activities

Connecticut

+ 1.0% + 0.7%

– Stamford-Bport LMA + 1.0%

+ 3.2%

Hartford LMA\*

+ 0.7%

- 1.2%\*

<sup>\*</sup> Reflects insurance restructuring & Mortgage Lenders layoff Source: CT DOL, Jan. 2007 vs. Jan. 2006

# Insurance & Financial Services Industry Workforce Challenges

#### **Shortage of Skilled Workers**

- Developing a worker pipeline
- Recruitment from untapped labor pools
- Retention of incumbent workers

#### **Increasing Requirements**

- Keep training up to speed with ever-changing products and services
- Demand for flexible workforce to keep up with changing product lines
- Higher knowledge requirements across a broader range of issues

Companies
Find
Common
Ground
+

Economic Interest in Collaboration

- **US DOL President's High Growth Job Training Grant** 
  - \$2.7 million over 3 years
  - Partnership to develop Curriculum & Pipeline
- **Partners & Roles** 
  - CT Department of Economic and Community Development Business Driven
    - Grant Recipient
  - The WorkPlace, Inc.
    - Grant Administrator and Fiduciary
  - IFS Cluster
    - Defines Business Needs, advises curriculum development, marketing and recruitment of incumbent workers
  - Community Colleges Primary Education Providers
    - Capital Community College Insurance (Greater Hartford Area)
    - Norwalk Community College Finance (Greater Stamford Area)

Three-Tier Curriculum Approach

I: Entry-level

■ Sample Job Titles: Administrative Asst.; Customer Service Associate; Teller; Financial Services Associates; Loan Assistant; Collections

#### II: Intermediate

Sample: Business Analyst; Project Manager; Financial Analyst; First-level Underwriter or Actuary

#### III: Advanced

Sample: Underwriter; Actuary; Sales Manager; Investment Manager

### <u>Deliverables</u>

- 275 Incumbent Workers Trained
- 125 Dislocated Workers Trained

#### **Benchmarks**

- Completion
- Placements
- Retention
- Wage Gains



## Certificate Programs Designed:

- IFS Specialist Certificate (non-credit)
- IFS Analyst Certificate (non-credit)
- Licensing & Advanced Certificate
- Advanced Financial Analyst Certificate
- Investment BankingCertificate
- Real Estate Finance & Investment Certificate
- Advanced IT Certificate

#### **New Approaches to Recruiting**

## **Target Participant Profiles:**

- **Incumbent Workers** 
  - New Liberal Arts graduate
  - High-Potential Administrator without college degree
  - Mid-Life Career Switcher
  - Transition from Staff job to Technical job
  - Under-employed
  - Technical Specialist seeking advanced certification
- **Dislocated Workers** 
  - Dislocated Financial Services Professional
  - Dislocated Career Switcher (non-financial)
  - Dislocated Career Advancer (non-financial)



umbrella...

## Program Design Framework: Two Tracks

**Degree Track** 

#### **Associates**

- Recent high school graduate
- Worker without a degree

#### **Bachelors**

- Recent high school graduate
- Worker without a bachelors degree

#### Masters/MBA

- Worker without advanced degree
- Worker with advanced degree needing IFS-specific focus

#### DBA

Currently under consideration

Workforce Development Track (Crossover to degree track as appropriate)

#### **Displaced Worker - No Experience**

- Displaced from another field of work

  Tier I and/or Tier II
- **Displaced Worker With Experience**
- With a degree Tier II and/or Tier III
  Without a degree Tier II, Tier III

#### Incumbent Worker- Min/No Experience

- In IFS industry role without any significant experience
  Tier I and/or Tier II
- Incumbent Worker Experienced
- Mid-level experience Tier III
  High-level experience Tier III



## Keys to Partnership:

- Business-Driven, with Active Leaders
  - Define requirements, review curriculum, recruit
  - Actively participate on all committees
  - Identify & support career pathways









- Community Colleges, working as a system
  - Design & deliver new curriculum
  - Leverage existing business relationships
  - Sustainability (transfer credits to 4-yr colleges)
- Workforce & Economic Development linkage
  - Apply experience from other successful initiatives
  - "Neutral brokers"
  - Catalyst for Pipeline Development

#### Partnership can do what individual companies can't:

- Address supply and demand challenges
  - High-growth occupations (next 10 years)
    - Personal Financial Advisors + 53%
    - Financial Analysts +41%
- Create a framework for industry professionals to assess their workforce needs
  - Connect business & education in continuous cycles
- Create a comprehensive solution for high-growth finance and insurance occupations
  - "Feed" key industry with average salary of \$229,000
  - Address needs at all levels, current & future
- Develop new approaches to recruiting and advancement
  - Industry-wide effort helps grow the pie



## Timeline

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	2006-7	2007-8	2008-9
Curriculum Development			
Marketing & Recruiting			
Enrollment & Pipeline Development			
Expand Campuses			



## Thank You!

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