

NEWS RELEASE

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**Iowa Workforce Development to Meet with Community Leaders,
Discusses Ways to Increase Iowans Work Skills**

Ft. Madison, IA – Iowa Workforce Development Director Elisabeth Buck and Deputy Director Joe Walsh visited the Ft. Madison office Wednesday, June 17. They discussed Iowa's state and county unemployment numbers, stimulus funds, UI Modernization, Misclassification and other topics of interest.

"With all the programs and services available right now for Iowans, there has never been a better time to increase your education and work skills," said Elisabeth Buck, Director of Iowa Workforce Development. "Iowans who find themselves unemployed during this current recession should explore their opportunities to upgrade their skill level and meet with financial aid officers at community colleges, universities or other training providers. They may qualify for Pell Grant or other financial aid packages."

Even though the downturn in the economy has reduced Iowa's potential workforce shortage, a number of jobs are still available, including the growing fields of healthcare and renewable energy, which require advanced training.

"It's important that we work to provide Iowans with the necessary skills to meet the needs of Iowa's employers," responded Buck.

Iowa Workforce Development provides resources for all Iowans regarding their employment needs. Visit one of 55 field offices across the state for personalized job search assistance; attend Iowa Advantage classes for increasing job search skills and interviewing techniques and utilize the Resource Center to develop your resume and search for jobs. The state jobs database is available at IowaJobs.org. This self-directed job search system allows the job seeker to view over 13,000 current job openings listed with Iowa Workforce Development all across the state. The user-friendly system allows jobseekers to register for work and search by keyword, location and more.

For more information, visit www.iowaworkforce.org or call your local office.

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