

## What is the FIRST-TO-WORK Program?

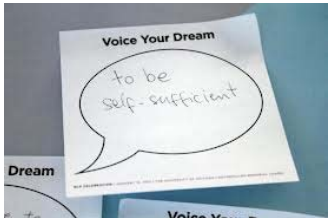


FIRST-TO-WORK (FTW) is a work program administered by the Department of Human Services

(DHS) through the Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD).

The FTW Program is for parents or other adults with dependent children that receive cash benefits through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program.

## What is the Goal of the FTW Program?



The goal of the FTW Program is to assist work eligible individuals of TANF families to

obtain employment and progress towards self-sufficiency, and to assist other work eligible individuals to rehabilitate so they may engage in work activities and obtain employment.

## Is participation with the FTW Program required?



Federal and State policies require parents or other adults of families with dependent children to participate with the FTW Program in order to be eligible for TANF cash benefits.

## What services does the FTW Program provide?

Participants of the FTW Program engage in various work activities that emphasize job readiness training, skill-building, adult and vocational education, and employment placement.



### VOCATIONAL TRAINING

AND EDUCATION: The FTW Program assists participants to increase their employability by obtaining their high school diplomas through adult basic education; vocational training in specific trades and occupations; and college degrees.



### SKILL BUILDING:

Skill Building activities improve the employability of FTW participants by providing work experience and training through volunteer and community service placements with public agencies and private non-profit organizations.

### JOB-READINESS TRAINING:

Prepares FTW participants to effectively seek and obtain employment. Training includes job preparedness classes; career exploration; job search support; assistance with resume development and preparing job applications; interviewing skills; and life skills training.



### EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENTS:

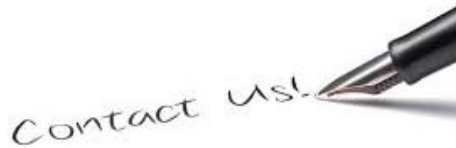
Participants are referred to many unsubsidized and subsidized employment opportunities with private sector employers.

## Does the FTW Program provide other Services?



To assist participants while they work towards meeting their

employment goals, the FTW Program provides supportive services such as child care subsidies, transportation reimbursement, tuition and books for education, and work-related expenses.

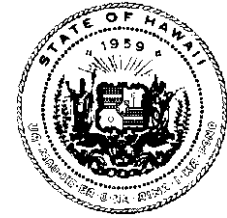


**Department of Human Services  
Benefit, Employment and Support  
Services Division**

Public Assistance Information Line:  
**1-855-643-1643**

**Website:**

<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/>



## **THE FIRST-TO-WORK PROGRAM**

Department of Human Services  
Benefit, Employment and  
Support Services Division

