

State Representative La Shawn K. Ford www.lashawnford.com	Chicago Office 5104 W. Chicago Ave Chicago, IL 60651 Phone: 773-378-5902	Oak Park Office 816 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, IL 60304 Phone: 708-445-3673	Springfield Office 247-E Stratton Building Springfield, IL 62706 Phone: 217-782-5962
--	---	--	---

STATE REP. LA SHAWN K. FORD'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Detailed below is information regarding the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's issuance of a new **Request for Application** under the **Employment Opportunities Grant Program (EOGP)**. The goal of the EOGP is to increase the number of people in historically underrepresented populations who enter and complete building trades apprenticeship programs and achieve journey-level status within building trades unions. Although these careers are physically and mentally demanding, they offer wages and benefits on which a family could comfortably live.

The RFA was issued on January 4, 2010 and is posted on the Department's website and on State Rep. Ford's website, www.lashawnford.com:

<http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/NR/rdonlyres/0D276AC1-EFAA-407F-A4B8-1B420590DF0C/0/EOGPFY10RFAFinalVersion.pdf>

The application period will run from January 4th through February 18, 2010, at 5 p.m.

The Department will also hold **Applicants' Conferences** in several locations throughout the state. In conjunction with the conferences, **Resource Fairs** will also be held which will permit local consultants, accountants and others to offer their services to potential applicants. These sessions are designed to answer any questions applicants may have. Although attendance is not mandatory, applicants are **strongly encouraged** to attend.

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford will host one of the Applicants' Conferences/Resource Fairs in conjunction with Westside Health Authority on Friday, January 22, 2010, from 10 a.m. – noon, at the Austin Wellness Center, 4800 W. Chicago Ave, Chicago, 60651.

The Department is looking forward to a strong applicant pool. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact State Representative La Shawn K. Ford or the office of Karin M. Norington-Reaves, Esq, at the numbers listed below:

Karin M. Norington-Reaves, Esq.
Managing Director, Office of Urban Assistance
Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
100 West Randolph, Suite 3-400
Chicago, IL 60601
e-mail: Karin.Norington-Reaves@Illinois.gov
(312) 814-2346 office; (312) 814-0999 fax