



SEASONAL WORKERS PILOT

- To address the need for training workers in major seasonal industries, in January 2007, the Panel implemented a Pilot to fund training for workers in the agricultural crop production industry. The Panel will fund training to increase employment retention and productivity in all cycles of crop production including harvesting, packing, processing and transportation. The cyclical nature of employment in this industry relates directly to the growing season.
- Employers must be in a seasonal industry that bases its operations on one or more cycles of crop production. [See Eligible Entities](#) for detail on employer eligibility.
- Trainees can be employed or unemployed at the time of training, but will be considered “retrainees” for purposes of the reimbursement rate and other standard program requirements.
- On a case-by-case basis, the minimum wage for retraining may be reduced by up to 25 percent if it exceeds wages earned pre-retention by 3 percent.
- The employment retention period is generally not less than 500 hours within 12 months of the end-of-training, with up to three employers in the crop production industry.
- At least 50 percent of training hours must consist of job-related vocational skills training. The remaining hours may be literacy training.
- The standard minimum and maximum training hours are 8 and 200. An approved justification is required to exceed the maximum training hours.

For further information regarding this Pilot program, please contact [ETP's Economic Development Unit](#), or call 916-327-5258.