**Speaker's Bureau**

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security established its Speaker’s Bureau to share information about the agency and its services. Our core programs of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services can change or expand as program funds become available. The MDES Speaker’s Bureau is made up of subject matter experts on all the various [services and programs](http://mdes.ms.gov/Home/docs/Speakers/MDES%20Speaking%20Topics.doc) provided by the agency or through the WIN Job Centers or our many partners.

Target groups for our speakers include but are not limited to, business organizations; employer organizations; civic, faith-based, and community groups; and schools. In addition to our basic services and programs, we have speakers who are well-versed in subjects including: professionalism, résumé updating, interviewing techniques, networking and other life skills.

To request a speaker for your meeting, print out the [Speaker’s Request Form](http://mdes.ms.gov/Home/docs/Speakers/SpeakersRequestFormF_fillable_033010.pdf), fill-out the form, and fax it to the Communications Department at 601-321-6271. Our Director of Communications will contact you for clarification about your request, if necessary, and designate a speaker. Please allow at least three weeks between your request and the date of the speech.

Our speakers provide these services free of charge. Any out-of-state requests or requests requiring overnight travel may necessitate travel and expenses compensation from the requesting party. Terms can be arranged with the MDES Business Office.

MDES Speaking Topics

**Workforce Investment Network (WIN) in Mississippi** – Overview of all the Workforce Investment Act programs offered by MDES or the WIN Job Centers, including Individual Training Accounts, On-the-Job Training, Work Opportunity Tax Credits, Foreign Labor Certification, and Rapid Response services.

**Rapid Response** – Assistance provided to employers faced with mass layoffs. On-site services provided to effected employees include résumé preparation, job-search assistance, and training options available.

**Job Search Assistance** – The WIN Job Centers offer a wide variety of services to individuals looking for work including, résumé assistance, computers for online job searches an applications, skills assessment, skills training and job referrals.

**Business Services** – MDES and WIN Job Centers provide a variety of services free-of-charge to business customers including job description assistance, placement assistance, employee screening, conference room space for employee interviews, computer labs for employee testing and information about tax credits available for businesses.

**e-Verify** – The Mississippi Legislature in 2008 made the Mississippi Department of Employment Security responsible for using E-Verify to ensure individuals are eligible to work in the state. The Mississippi Employment Protection Act frees employers of liability when they place job orders with MDES and hire people the agency refers.

**e-Win Access Points** – virtual WIN Job Centers in community and faith-based locations and at Mississippi Department of Human Service offices. Staffed by ambassadors trained by MDES, they provide access to WIN Job Center services in rural locations where a WIN Job Center is not available.

**Professional skills training** – MDES and WIN Job Center staff can provide skills training in interviewing techniques, résumé writing, dressing for the interview, etc.