

FEATURED EMPLOYER



Discovery Benefits is a national leader in employee benefits administration with a long history offering employee benefit services. Discovery has offered flexible benefits administration since 1987. They began offering COBRA administration in 1994. Transportation Fringe Benefit Plans were added in 2003. In 2004, Discovery Benefits implemented Health Reimbursement Arrangements and Health Savings Accounts.

Discovery is located in Fargo, ND and currently has 153 employees. All administrative and customer service is provided from Fargo for clients throughout the United States. Their primary focus is to build long-term relationships with their clients and channels. This region is well known for its strong work ethic, which they think is second to none in the country. The strong work ethic, along with the excellent customer service make them successful when competing on a national level. They promote and promise excellent customer service as their primary differentiator and deliver on that promise because of their employees. Discovery is one of the top ten administrators in the country because of the high level and quality of customer service.

The objective and cornerstone of Discovery's philosophy is to provide responsive and flexible administrative services creating value for their clients and their employees. They are a customer-focused organization blending people and technology to provide high-quality customer service and administration. Discovery's mission is to transform the complexity of employee benefits administration with innovative

solutions and extraordinary customer service delivered by empowered and knowledgeable employees.

Clients range in size from two to 120,000 employees across all industries. Discovery Benefits offered its services on a regional basis from 1987 through 2004 and began its expansion into the national arena in 2005 through relationships developed with international consulting firms such as Mercer, AON, and Willis. The launch into the national arena proved to be very successful and Discovery has experienced tremendous growth year-over-year.

Employers look for ways to offer employee benefits in a cost-effective manner that helps both the employer and employee save money. Flexible benefit plans, as well as the other reimbursement account benefits, provide employers a cost effective way to offer health insurance for their employees because these benefits are offered on a pre-tax basis. Employees save up to 40% on their portion of insurance premiums and out-of-pocket medical and dependent care expenses by saving federal, state and FICA (Medicare and Social Security) taxes. Employers save 7.65% on every dollar deducted pre-tax because there is no Social Security match required on pre tax dollars under a flexible benefit plan.

Employers also save when outsourcing their COBRA to Discovery Benefits. Discovery uses state of the art software for its COBRA compliance administration providing their clients with real-time access to all information through the convenience of online portals. As most employers know, complying with COBRA can be difficult and cumbersome. Outsourcing COBRA eliminates the liability because Discovery assumes liability for compliance under its control.

Learn more about Discovery Benefits by visiting www.discoverybenefits.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Workplace Technologies

Presented by:
Sherry Olson
Microsoft
November 17, 2009
3 pm - 5 pm

Health, Tech & Trades Career Expo

Hosted by:
Health Tech & Trade Career Expo
Steering Committee
Fargodome
December 10, 2009
8:30 am - 3 pm

No Workshop

December 2009

Happy Holidays!

All workshops are held at the Fargo Job Service Office in Room C/D at no cost to you. To RSVP or for more information contact Julie at jrostber@nd.gov or 701-239-7304.

HEALTH, TECH & TRADES CAREER EXPO

More than 2,500 area high school ninth graders and upperclassmen will gather from 8:30 am to 3 pm, Thursday, December 10 at the Fargodome to contemplate their future careers. The seventh annual Health, Tech & Trades Career Expo was created to expose students to several occupational opportunities right here in our region. This unique event gives students a chance at hands-on experiences and exposure to many different careers.

The target audience is freshman students, but interested high school students of any age and their parents are invited to attend. Admission is free.

Exhibits are encouraged to be interactive, with students having the rare opportunity to get a feel for operating a crane, applying makeup, administering a shot, handling a drill, welding, sitting behind the wheel of a semi-truck or rescue vehicle, or reading an x-ray, all

under one roof!

Expanding each year, the event has grown to include over 75 different professions displayed by local and regional experts in their trades. Some of the industries represented will include: construction trades, cosmetology, education, emergency & rescue, health care, information technology, welding, mechanical technology, manufacturing, armed forces, transportation, veterinary technology, paralegal, and more.

Students in attendance will represent public and private schools from the Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo metro area, as well as many other schools from the surrounding region in both North Dakota and Minnesota.

For more information on this event check out www.httcareerexpo.com. To reserve exhibit space contact (701) 212-6714.



Office Hours:
Monday 8 am - 7 pm
Tuesday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

Job Service North Dakota will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Veteran's Day
November 11, 2009

Thanksgiving Day
November 26, 2009

Christmas Eve
Closing at noon
December 24, 2009

Christmas Day
December 25, 2009

New Year's Day
January 1, 2010

Job Service North Dakota
1350 32nd St. S.
Fargo, ND 58103

Phone:

701-239-7300
1-800-247-0985

Fax:

701-239-7350

TTY Relay:

1-800-366-6888

We're on the Web!

www.jobsnd.com

WHAT'S NEW



The [North Dakota Workforce Review](#) provides labor market information for North Dakota's regions and counties as well as a statewide overview.

In order to effectively attract, retain, and recruit workers, an understanding of North Dakota's current labor market and economy is needed. The *North Dakota Workforce Review* is one tool that helps meet that need.

Click the cover graphic above to view the latest publication. **[Due to the publication's file size and depending on your internet connection speed, it may take longer than normal to download].** To place an order for a hardcopy, please send us an [e-mail](#) or visit our [Contact Us](#) page for additional options.



The annual update to [North Dakota's Largest Employers](#) has been completed and results have been posted to our website.

Largest employers are ranked according to the number of payroll jobs reported on an annual basis using data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. View North Dakota's 100 largest statewide employers, in addition to 13 local area listings.

Employers gave their written consent for their company's name to be published on this list; if permission was not obtained, 'Nondisclosable' was substituted for the company name.

Additional publications can be found on [NDWin](#) from the Job Service website www.jobsnd.com.

JOB SERVICE IN ACTION

"I have always enjoyed any workshop I have attended through Job Service, and I appreciate this

service you offer."

- Mary Tweten, Microsoft Finance

This newsletter is published by Job Service North Dakota. Articles are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations. E-mail addresses will not be sold or distributed. Direct any questions or concerns to your local Job Service North Dakota Customer Service Office.

To remove your name from or add your name to our mailing list please email: rostber@nd.gov

Job Service North Dakota is an equal opportunity employer/program provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.