

Call for Papers

"Vouchers, contracting-out and performance standards: Market mechanisms in active labor market policy"

International
Workshop
in Nuremberg,
Oct. 24-25, 2008

Background

During the last years, market mechanisms have gained importance in the provision of employment services. In Germany, access to further training programs is now granted through vouchers, issued by caseworkers. Also, unemployed persons may ask for a voucher that entitles them to use the services of a private placement agency or may be assigned to private agencies that compete on a quasi-market. Only recently, a wage subsidy voucher has been introduced for older workers. But does the introduction of market mechanisms into originally public bureaucracies in fact improve efficiency and flexibility of services delivered?

Topics

The workshop presents international current research on the use of market mechanisms in active labor market policy. The scientific committee encourages in particular contributions on vouchers for active labor market programs, on contracting-out of employment services, but also on performance standards for public bureaucracies as well as for private providers, related to active labor market policies. Theoretical contributions, empirical research using survey evidence or experiments as well as policy-orientated papers are welcome.

Key-Note Speakers

Carolyn HEINRICH (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
Jeffrey SMITH (University of Michigan)

Submission

The deadline for submissions is **July 15, 2008**. Please submit electronic versions of completed papers (pdf preferred) to market2008@iab.de. You will be notified on acceptance of your paper until August 15, 2008.

Scientific Committee

Bernd FITZENBERGER (Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg)
Thomas KRUPPE (IAB)
Regina RIPHAHN (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)
Claus SCHNABEL (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)
Gesine STEPHAN (IAB)



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Workshop sponsored by:

- Institute for Employment Research (IAB)
- German Research Foundation (DFG) through the research network "Flexibility in heterogeneous labour markets"
- Labor and Socio-Economic Research Center (LASER)

Travel costs:

Travel and accommodation for speakers of accepted papers (one speaker per paper) will be paid for.

Conference fee:

There will be no fee for presenters of accepted papers, members of the research network „Flexibility in heterogeneous labour markets“ and members of the Labor and Socio-Economic Research Center. For all other participants the workshop fee will be Euro 100.