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0521816955 - Designing Inclusion: Tools to Raise Low-end Pay and Employment in Private Enterprise
Edited by Edmund S. Phelps
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Designing Inclusion

An inclusion failure has become highly visible in the advanced economies of the West. Too many able-bodied people are subject to chronic joblessness and, when employed, cannot earn a living remotely like that in the mainstream of the population. One policy response has been to give such workers a range of goods and services without charge, another has been to single out some groups for tax credits tied to their earnings. However, many of the welfare programs actually weaken people's incentive to participate in the labor force and wage-income tax credits appear to have made hardly a dent in joblessness. This timely volume brings together leading economists to present four studies of methods to rebuild self-sufficiency and boost employment: a graduated employment subsidy, a hiring subsidy and subsidies for training and education. It is of interest to anyone with a serious interest in the economics of subsidies to raise inclusion.

EDMUND S. PHELPS is McVickar Professor of Political Economy and Director of the Center on Capitalism and Society at Columbia University.

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Contents

List of figures *page* vii
List of tables ix
List of contributors xi

Introduction 1
EDMUND S. PHELPS

1 Low-wage employment subsidies in a labor-turnover model of the "natural rate" 16
HIAN TECK HOON AND EDMUND S. PHELPS

2 Taxes, subsidies and equilibrium labor market outcomes 44
DALE MORTENSEN AND CHRISTOPHER PISSARIDES

3 Learning-by-doing versus on-the-job training: using variation induced by the EITC to distinguish between models of skill formation 74
JAMES J. HECKMAN, LANCE LOCHNER AND RICARDO COSSA

4 Unemployment vouchers versus low-wage subsidies 131
J. MICHAEL ORSZAG AND DENNIS J. SNOWER

Index 161

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0521816955 - Designing Inclusion: Tools to Raise Low-end Pay and Employment in Private Enterprise
Edited by Edmund S. Phelps
Frontmatter
More information

Figures

1.1	Wealth supply and asset demand	*page* 23
1.2	Labor, product and capital market equilibrium	27
1.3	Effects of a flat subsidy	30
1.4	Comparison of flat and graduated subsidies	32
1.5	Effects of a flat subsidy on hiring and employment	38
2.1	Equilibrium market tightness and reservation productivity	56
3.1	Earned Income Tax Credit	75
3.2	Simulated effects of EITC on investment (OJT model)	107
3.3	Simulated effects of EITC on hours worked (OJT model)	107
3.4	Simulated effects of EITC on human capital (OJT model)	108
3.5	Simulated effects of EITC on wage rates (OJT model)	108
3.6	Simulated effects of EITC on wage income (OJT model)	109
3.7	Simulated effects of EITC on hours worked (LBD model)	115
3.8	Simulated effects of EITC on human capital (LBD model)	115
3.9	Changes in hourly wages owing to increases in hours worked (LBD model)	117
3.10	Simulated effects of EITC on wage income (LBD model)	117
4.1	The structure of the model	137
4.2	The effect of changes in wages and employer firing propensity (ϕ) on the reward to work	141
4.3	The effect of changes in wages and employer firing propensity (ϕ) on unemployment	141
4.4	The effect of changes in the discount factor on the reward to work	142
4.5	The effect of changes in risk aversion (γ) on the reward to work	142
4.6	The value to dead-end workers of being employed with and without an unemployment voucher	144
4.7	The value to dead-end workers of being employed with and without a wage subsidy	144
4.8	The value to dead-end workers of being unemployed with and without an unemployment voucher	145

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Edited by Edmund S. Phelps
Frontmatter
More information

4.9 The value to dead-end workers of unemployment at different durations with a low-wage subsidy 145
4.10 Change in employment at different durations with an unemployment voucher 146
4.11 Change in unemployment at different durations with an unemployment voucher 147
4.12 Change in unemployment at different durations with a low-wage subsidy 147
4.13 Change in employment at different durations with a low-wage subsidy 148
4.14 The value to upwardly mobile workers of being employed with and without an unemployment voucher 149
4.15 The value to upwardly mobile workers of being unemployed with and without an unemployment voucher 150
4.16 Optimal duration-dependent balanced-budget payroll policy with flat wages 151
4.17 Optimal duration-dependent balanced-budget payroll policy with increasing wages 151

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0521816955 - Designing Inclusion: Tools to Raise Low-end Pay and Employment in Private Enterprise
Edited by Edmund S. Phelps
Frontmatter
More information

Tables

2.1 Baseline parameter values *page* 60
2.2 Outcomes: high skill ($p = 1.4$) 62
2.3 Outcomes: low skill ($p = 0.75$) 62
2.4 Effects of an employment subsidy 65
2.5 Effects of a hiring subsidy 65
2.6 Effects of a "low-skill" subsidy and "high-skill" surtax 68
3.1 Earned Income Tax Credit for 1994 90
3.2 Distribution of households qualifying for the EITC 91
3.3 Distribution of earnings for working female high-school dropouts over the EITC schedule (household heads with children) 92
3.4 Distribution of earnings for working female high-school graduates over the EITC schedule (household heads with children) 93
3.5 Estimated lifecycle progression through the EITC schedule (OJT simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 106
3.6 Effects of EITC (OJT model) 109
3.7 Annual compensation necessary to make people indifferent between employment and non-employment (OJT simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 110
3.8 Employment rates and average human capital levels (OJT simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 111
3.9 Effects of EITC on potential skill levels (OJT simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 112
3.10 Effects of EITC on skills supplied to the market (OJT simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 114
3.11 Estimated lifecycle progression through the EITC schedule (LBD simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 116
3.12 Effects of EITC when imposed (LBD model) 118

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0521816955 - Designing Inclusion: Tools to Raise Low-end Pay and Employment in Private Enterprise
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Frontmatter
More information

3.13 Annual compensation necessary to make people indifferent between employment and non-employment (LBD simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 118
3.14 Employment rates and average human capital levels (LBD simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 119
3.15 Effects of EITC on potential skill levels (LBD simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 120
3.16 Effects of EITC on skills supplied to the market (LBD simulations based on 1994 EITC schedule for two children) 121
3A.1 Definition of EITC regions for CPS calculations 126
3D.1 Parameter values for the OJT model 128
3D.2 Parameter values for the LBD model 128
3D.3 Goodness of fit (OJT model): weighted sum of squared differences 129
3D.4 Goodness of fit (LBD model): weighted sum of squared differences 129

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