

# Dislocated Worker, Adult Career Pathways, and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, April 21, 2021

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## Adult Programs Communication

- Partner Express monthly newsletter – email [deed.taa@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.taa@state.mn.us) if you would like to subscribe

## Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs

### Overview of National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs)

- Opioids – The Minnesota Initiative (OMNI) Program
  - \$800,000 initial award, approved for up to \$1,368,421
  - The purpose of this Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grant is to:
    - Provide employment and training services to dislocated workers who have been directly and indirectly impacted by the opioid crisis;
    - Provide training that builds skilled workforce in professions that could impact the causes and treatment of the opioid crisis;
- COVID-19 Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG)
  - Awarded \$2,535,795
  - The purpose of the COVID-19 DWG is to:
    - Provide training, career services and temporary employment to those unemployed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
    - Create disaster-relief employment positions that offer humanitarian assistance to those affected by COVID-19, which includes actions designed to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity in the immediate aftermath of disasters.

### WIOA DW, WIOA Adult, and State DW:

- PY21 WIOA Allocations: TEGL pending; allocations will be sent out after TEGL is released.
  - PY20 WIOA DW Re-allotment funds: Pending Notice of Award (NOA) from DOL before sending out final allocations
- State DW Formula: Preliminary allocations will be available mid-late May

### Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Board (MJSP) meeting:

- Scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2021; supplemental funding requests are due by May 14, 2021.

### Carry Forward Requests:

- Providers may request a waiver to carry forward more than 20% of their allocated PY20 funds into the next program year using the provided template (attached). Providers who expend or obligate at least 80% of their PY20 formula funds by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter do not need a waiver.
- Please submit your waivers by June 7<sup>th</sup> to allow enough time for leadership approval.

### Monthly Financial Status Report (FSR) / Monthly Reimbursement Payment Request (RPR):

- Due 20 days after month end. For example, the June RPR (June 30 end date) is due July 20.
- A monthly RPR/FSR is required even if no funds were expended.

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## Quarterly Progress Report (QPR):

- Due 30 days after quarter end. For example, the Quarter 1 report (September 30 end date) is due October 30.

## Adult Career Pathways Programs

### Legislative Direct Appropriation Grants/ Competitive Grants SFY20/21

State Legislators continue to meet, and the ACP team is watching these sessions closely as the final budget will determine SFY22-23 program budgets. We expect that RFPs will be released summer 2021.

The ACP Team released a Tech Training Pilot Project RFP on March 11<sup>th</sup>, with a due date of Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a new program within ACP serving adults 18-30 and targeting underrepresentation of BIPOC communities in the Technology field.

Quarterly reports are due April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, please contact your Coordinator with any questions or concerns.

### SNAP E&T 50/50

DEED has contracted with a total of eight SNAP E&T 50% Reimbursement Grantees for SFY21. This program offers 50% reimbursement (up to \$200,000 this year) on expenses already incurred through ACP's Pathways to Prosperity and Mn Family Resiliency Partnership programs.

### ACP Operations Guide

ACP's [Operations Guide](#) is now available from [the ACP home page](#). The Guide documents current practices for ACP. The ACP Team meets monthly to discuss suggested additions, updates, modifications, and other changes to the guide and update as necessary. The Guide is intended to be a living document and will be updated as procedures evolve. It does NOT include [measures implemented in response to COVID-19](#), which are listed separately.

### Workforce One User Guide

The ACP team is working to update the ACP Workforce One Guide to reflect updates and changes to programs in the past two years. Stay tuned for the updated guide to be ready soon!

### Workforce One use

**Case notes** must provide a complete, accurate, and concise explanation of frequency and type of contact with participants, as well as services provided, and the outcomes associated with those services. Case notes should be entered at minimum, once every 30 days (MN Family Resiliency Partnership: once every 60 days). Case notes continue to be the number one issue addressed during monitoring visits. They should be entered each time a counselor contacts, or attempts to contact, participants throughout the duration of program participation and provide enough detail so that the reader can clearly determine a participant's progress towards IEP goals.

## Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

### Roundtables:

Minnesota TAA hosted **virtual Roundtables for Dislocated Worker Counselors April 13-15, 2021**.

- TAA will send a survey soon via email; survey responses help TAA plan for future Roundtables.
- Powerpoints are available at this link on the Presentations tab <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/dislocated-worker/counselors/training/>

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## Final Rule: Updated regulations for the TAA program

**Major changes for Minnesota** related to Subpart F: Training [20 CFR 618.600](#)

1. Determine if customer needs training
  - a. If not, refer to other TAA services such as Job Search, Relocation Allowances, RTAA
  - b. If so, complete comprehensive assessments
    - i. Compare training with the soonest training end date, then cost, then location
2. The Final Rule provides guidelines on determining reasonable cost
  - a. Consider the priorities based on Department of Labor's (DOL) guidance (see section above)
  - b. Good faith estimate includes ALL associated costs (training, internet, tools, etc.)
3. Allows for training that will lead to self-employment
  - a. Employment goal can be self-employment, but training must be occupational (i.e. hair salon owner; TAA could pay for cosmetology training)
4. Benchmark (Training Progress Report) failures:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> failure: TAA must send a warning to the customer
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> failure: Customer must amend plan or forfeit Completion TRA
5. Transportation is paid only for miles that *exceed* local commuting area

## Job Search Allowance:

Please remind customers, especially Spring graduates, about the **Job Search Allowance benefit** available for interviews that are 15 miles or more from the customer's home. The customer should fill out and submit the [application](#) prior to interviews.

## Training applications with Fall 2021 Training Start:

July and August are two of the busiest months for TAA staff because of the State fiscal year change on July 1, and because of so many students starting training Fall term. Please remember to **submit applications as soon as possible, and at least two weeks before the training start date**. TAA will do its best to review applications that come in with less time than that, but please send applications (with waivers, if applicable) as soon as they're completed.

## Petitions:

- TAA/Rapid Response staff are researching one (1) company for possible trade-impacted layoffs
- Pending Department of Labor (DOL) determination: two (2) petitions