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

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, July 21, 2021

Adult Programs Communication

• Partner Express monthly newsletter – email deed.taa@state.mn.us if you would like to subscribe

<u>Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs</u>

PY19 Dislocated Worker and WIOA Adult Allocations:

- PY2019 allocations expired on June 30, 2021. All open activities using these funding streams need your immediate attention (See the Partner Express newsletter for additional information)
 - If any participant will continue participating in an activity that is currently showing a PY2019 allocation supporting that service, that activity needs to be copied within their activity detail screen
 - The new activity will need a start date of July 1, 2021
 - An active funding source (PY2020 or PY2021 allocation) will need to be selected within them
 - To help in this funding source transition, Amy Carlson will begin mass PY19 activity closures on August 2, 2021
 - If there are cases without other open activities on record showing a different funding source, this mass closure will not work for those cases
 - Any cases not able to be included in the PY2019 funded activity closure will be emailed to the management team for the COFFR funding the case. Instructions on how to correct the case record will be included in that email

PY21/SFY 22 Planning Documents

• All planning documents have been received. Thank you to everyone!

Adult Career Pathways Programs

Legislative Direct Appropriation Grants/ Competitive Grants

State Legislators finalized the budget in late June determining ACP's SFY22-23 program budgets. We expect that RFPs will be released this summer.

The ACP Team released a Tech Training Pilot Project RFP in March. This is a new program within ACP serving adults 18-30 and targeting underrepresentation of BIPOC communities in the Technology field. DEED is in the decision-making process of the grant and final decisions will be communicated once they've been made.

Documentation to Support Participant Eligibility

The ACP team recently updated the Documentation to Support Participant Eligibility to expand the social security number verification requirements to allow for alternative documents for participants to submit for eligibility into ACP programs. The additional alternative options include the ISIR, MAXIS print off, and State, County or Federal Department of Corrections "Face Sheet". The participant's full name and full social security number must be listed on any one of the documents. The emphasis for participants enrolled in ACP programs will be on ensuring

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participants have the documents required to search for and obtain employment; I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification.

Participants who submit verification of the social security number with a Social Security card will not need further action from the Counselor/Navigator. However, if the participant is using an alternative document to verify their social security number Grantees must work with participants to ensure that without a social security card, the participant has the documents required to search for and obtain employment within 90 days.

This update is in effect as of July 6th, 2021. More guidance on this expansion will be provided within the ACP Operations Guide.

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 on expenses already incurred through ACP's Pathways to Prosperity and Mn Family Resiliency Partnership programs.

The SNAP E&T 50% Reimbursement Program runs on SFY and it is anticipated that other invitations to apply will follow SFY22-23 Grant awards.

ACP Guides

ACP's <u>Operations Guide</u> is now available from <u>the ACP home page</u>. This guide does NOT include <u>measures</u> <u>implemented in response to COVID-19</u>, which are listed separately.

The ACP team continues to work on updating the ACP Workforce One Guide, Stay tuned for the updated guide to be ready soon!

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

Reversion 2021

On July 1, 2021, the TAA Program reverted to a modified version of the Trade Reform Act of 2002. Any workers covered under a Petition for Trade Adjustment Assistance filed on or after July 1, 2021, would be covered by this modified version. Current customers and people who are eligible under an older petition continue to receive the benefits under the appropriate law of their petition. Nearly all of our current customers are covered by 2015 Law and their services/benefits will not change.

One of the major changes made to the program is the eligibility criteria, under this reversion the location of where a shift in production occurs is a factor. TEGL 24-20, Attachment C is a list of nations for shift in production determinations under Reversion 2021- https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr doc.cfm?DOCN=6175.

Please note: DOL has advised that we continue to file petitions for any layoffs that are potentially impacted by foreign competition and DOL will make an official determination of the petition. Please continue to alert TAA if you hear of any possible trade-impacted layoffs.

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Training Applications are due at least two weeks before training start date

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.

TAA requests that DW Counselors specifically review Employment Plans (ISS/IEP) and Waivers with customers who expressed interest in training this fall. If the customer's goals have changed, or the customer is not making progress toward enrolling in training, promptly notify TAA.

TAA recently updated the Training, Job Search Allowance, and Relocation Allowance applications: https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/dislocated-worker/counselors/forms/

Computer and Tool Requests

TAA staff will order computers up to two weeks ahead of the customer's training start date, and we'll order tools up to four weeks ahead of the training start date. In order for TAA to fulfill accurate and timely requests for computers, please use the high technology request form on the Counselor Portal https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/dislocated-worker/counselors/forms/

Petitions

- TAA/Rapid Response staff are researching two (2) companies for possible trade-impacted layoffs
- Pending Department of Labor (DOL) determination: eight (8) petitions