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

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, September 22, 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>

- Quarter 4 Performance are attached.
  - There is still minimal COVID era performance data available but it is clear that participants who
    exited the program pre-pandemic had a harder time keeping their jobs (as lockdowns occurred) &
    participants exiting the program during the pandemic had a harder time getting job but once they
    got a job, retention is high.
  - Please reach out to <u>Amy.Carlson@state.mn.us</u> for additional information or questions.
- COVID DWG
  - DOL requested that states complete a COVID Recovery Readiness Consultation guide, a set of
    questions that cover various topics including partnerships, innovative solutions, etc. Program staff
    will be reaching out to grantees with information and next steps.
- Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Board (MJSP) meeting
  - New date scheduled: Monday October 25, 2021. Please send any supplemental funding requests by Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Partner Express we are looking to improve the newsletter and provide content that you, the audience, are interested in. We might be reaching out for feedback and/or input on what you might want to see included.

## **Adult Career Pathways Programs**

Legislative Direct Appropriation Grants/ Competitive Grants

Providers are entering the final quarter of SFY21 contracts and programs. Please be mindful of budgets and WF1 measurable outcomes. All SFY20-21 participants must be exited from WF1 within 30 days of the end of your contract.

The Minnesota Tech Training Pilot Project Grantees will begin programming this month. This is a new program within ACP and the team is excited to provide an additional training opportunity to communities throughout the state.

The Southeast Asian Economic Relief Grant, African Immigrant Community Economic Relief Grant, and the 3 Pathways to Prosperity Program RFPs closed last week. WESA and Adult Support Services RFP s are due Monday September 27 and must be time stamp received by DEED by 5:00pm (CST). Please plan accordingly and take in to account the email lag when sending attachments. If you have any questions regarding the LIVE RFPs, please visit the FAQs at: https://mn.gov/deed/about/contracts/open-rfp.jsp.

### SNAP E&T 50/50

SNAP E&T 50% Reimbursement 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. Please contact Ann Meyers at <a href="mailto:ann.meyers@state.mn.us">ann.meyers@state.mn.us</a> if you have any questions

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about the program or how you may be able to take advantage of these funds.

#### **ACP Guides**

Even during these busy times, the ACP team continues to update the <u>Operations Guide</u> posted at <u>the ACP home</u> <u>page</u>. This guide does NOT include <u>measures 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!

## <u>Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)</u>

#### 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 <u>not</u> change.

One of the major changes is the deadline for a person to submit a waiver or training application to protect Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) benefits. **Under Reversion 2021, there is an 8/16 week deadline: the customer must have a waiver or training application approved within 8 weeks of petition certification or 16 weeks from layoff to protect TRA benefits (see page 5 of Operating Instructions, Attachment A)** <a href="https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\_doc.cfm?DOCN=6175">https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\_doc.cfm?DOCN=6175</a>.

#### TAA is the Primary Source of Funding

Please remember that when a TAA eligible customer is interested in credentialed training, including short-term training and part-time training, it is required that the Dislocated Worker program send a training application to TAA. Dislocated Worker funds should not be used for any type of credentialed training without first attempting to obtain TAA funding. Once a TAA-approved training plan is in place, TAA funding should be used for all required expenses. Items listed on the training application, such as transportation, required tools or exams, still require TAA preapproval before the customer purchases items. It is not appropriate for customers to simply not request TAA preapproval with the expectation that DW will cover expenses that would have otherwise been covered by TAA funding if pre-approval had been requested.

#### Petitions

- TAA/Rapid Response staff are researching two (2) companies for possible trade-impacted layoffs
- Pending Department of Labor (DOL) determination: three (3) petitions
- Recently certified: Bedford Industries, Worthington; McKesson Medical-Surgical Inc., Plymouth;
   Medtronic Inc., Minneapolis; Marmon Foodservices Technologies, Inc. d.b.a. Silver King, Minneapolis;
   Synchrony Bank, Saint Paul; \*The Coleman Company, Sauk Rapids (\*customers receive benefits under Reversion 2021)