



Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) COVID-19 and Opioid

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Joint MAWB-CareerForce Systems-VRS-SSB Meeting

Purpose of DWGs

- Discretionary grants awarded by Department of Labor
- Provides resources to states to respond to large unexpected events causing significant job losses:
 - COVID-19
 - Opioid/OMNI

MN COVID-19 DWG Program Overview

- Type of DWG: Disaster Recovery
- MN awarded \$2,535,795 in DWG funding on June 2, 2020
- Goal: 256 Dislocated Workers; 156 in Disaster Relief Employment (DRE)
- DRE Focus: Food service relief and humanitarian assistance
- Period of Performance: June 01, 2020 thru June 30, 2022

Grant Structure/Funding Levels

Organization	Total Number of Participants	Disaster Relief Employment (DRE)
Anoka County	15	13
Career Solutions	51	20
City of Duluth	7	7
Hennepin County	30	30
Minneapolis	33	33
Ramsey County	30	30
South Central	20	10
Southwest PIC	9	3
WDI	81	10
TOTAL	256 Participants	156 in DRE

Total Grant
Awarded:
\$ 2,060,000

Opioids – The Minnesota Initiative (OMNI) Program

OMNI Program Goals

- 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;
- Create temporary disaster-relief employment that addresses the unique impacts of the opioid crisis in affected communities;
- Facilitate community partnerships to mitigate the negative impact of the epidemic.

Funding and Partners

Conditionally approved for \$1,368,421, with an initial award of \$800,000

Organization	Total Number of Participants	Disaster Relief Employment (DRE)
Anoka County	72	12
City of Duluth	33	13
CMJTS	80	5
WDI	15	0
TOTAL	200	30

Eligible Participants

- An individual eligible must be one of the following, per 20 CFR 687.170(b):
 - temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the disaster;
 - a dislocated worker as defined at 29 U.S.C. 3102(3)(15);
 - a long-term unemployed worker; (State's definition is allowable = 15 weeks) or
 - a self-employed individual who became unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the disaster or emergency



Participants may be enrolled in:

- Disaster-relief employment only;
- Employment and training activities only; or
- Both disaster-relief employment and employment and training activities. These may occur concurrently, or one may occur prior to the other.

Disaster-Relief Employment

- Limited to 12 months (or 2,080 hours) whichever is longer

Employment and Training Activities

- Career Services
- Training
- Support

Allowable Activities: Disaster Relief Employment (DRE)

Temporary employment of eligible individuals for the purposes described in WIOA Section 170(b)(1)(B) and (d), as well as 20 CFR 687.180(b) and (c).

Humanitarian assistance generally includes actions designed to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity in the immediate aftermath of disasters.

- COVID-19: contact tracers, personal shoppers for older individuals, cleaners, peer counselors for mental health support
- OMNI: Opioid response coordinators, peer recovery specialists, mental health professionals, call center staff

The humanitarian assistance provided by disaster-relief workers must relate directly to needs created by the disaster.

Benefits for Employers

- Any Minnesota employers with a need for temporary positions focused on the humanitarian response to the disasters may be eligible to participate.
- Temporary positions may be employed for a maximum of 12 months or 2,080 hours, whichever is longer.
- Up to 100% of wages are subsidized.
- Employers may have/request more than one temporary position based on need.
- Temporary staff will undergo background checks and drug screenings if required for the position/assignment
- Temporary staff will be matched to job opportunities based on skills, experience and scheduling availability.
- No fees or costs are associated with employer participation.

DRE Responsibilities

- The Employer of Record is responsible for handling payroll/benefits & Workers' Compensation for temporary employees.
- The Worksite Employer Entity is responsible for direction & supervision of the temporary employee funded under the grant.
- The Worksite Location is the physical location where temporary disaster employee will be performing assigned work duties.

Questions?

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- Section 170 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- WIOA Final Rule, regulations for WIOA, DWGs found at 20 CFR Part 687
- For Operating Guidance on National Dislocated Worker Grants, please read TEGL 12-19 - https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=9054
- For DWG Performance guidance, please read TEGL 14-18 - https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=7611 and Attachment 6 - [https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL_14-18 Attachment-6 Acc.pdf](https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL_14-18_Attachment-6_Acc.pdf)

