

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

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, September 21, 2022

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## [Adult Programs Communication](#)

Partner Express monthly newsletter

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## Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs

### Performance

PY21 through Q4 Statewide Performance Outcome Achievements	Served	2nd Quarter Employment	4th Quarter Employment	Median Earnings	Credential Attainment	Measurable Skill Gains
Total Dislocated Worker	5,900	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING
State Dislocated Worker	5,009	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING
WIOA Dislocated Worker	1,628	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING
DWG	235	EXCEEDING	EXCEEDING	SUCCESSFUL	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING
WIOA Adult	1,657	SUCCESSFUL	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING	SUCCESSFUL	EXCEEDING
EXCEEDING = achieving higher than the negotiated performance standard						
SUCCESSFUL = achieving at least 50% of the negotiated performance standard						
UNSUCCESSFUL = achieving less than 50% of the negotiated performance standard						

If you have any questions on your PY21 reports, please contact Amy Carlson at [amy.carlson@state.mn.us](mailto:amy.carlson@state.mn.us)

### Senior Community Service Employment Program:

- PY2021 Data Validation process started, deadline for providers to submit requested information is September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- GPMS to go fully live on Monday October 2, 2022, all SPARQ data will be migrated over, and SPARQ will be read-only after end of year close until December 31, 2022.

### DOL Federal monitoring:

- DEED received a letter of intent from the Regional Office to conduct an onsite WIOA Key Provisions Review and monitoring of the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Wagner-Peyser programs for DEED and Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, October 24 – 28, 2022.

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## RETAIN:

- Over 430 participants enrolled
- MN RETAIN was at the State Fair 8/25 - 9/5
  - Approx. 22,000 promotional items distributed
  - Special visits: Gov. Tim Walz, Lt. Gov Flannagan, Commissioner Grove
- New healthcare partner – Rochester Clinic
- Ongoing engagement with employers and community groups
- Please contact [john.connell@state.mn.us](mailto:john.connell@state.mn.us) if you're interested in learning more about how MN RETAIN helps ill/injured workers stay at work.

## DWGs:

- Period of Performance extended to June 30, 2023.
- Recruitment and enrollment both for COVID-19 and Opioids National Disaster Relief DWGs are ongoing.
- DEED is assessing need to request additional/remaining funds for Opioids DWG.

*(The COVID-19 National Disaster Grant provides disaster-relief and humanitarian assistance employment, as well as employment and training services, to minimize the employment and economic impact of COVID-19. Opioids - The Minnesota Initiative (OMNI) project is a workforce development initiative which seeks to address the state's opioid crisis.)*

## Policy Updates:

- WIOA and State Dislocated Worker Eligibility Policy is in final review and will be released later this month.

## Minnesota Jobs Skills Partnership (MJSP)

- Next MJSP Board Meeting: Monday, October 24, 2022; Open to the public.
- State DW supplemental funding request was due on September 12.

## Adult Career Pathways Programs

Please join me in welcoming three new ACP Grant Coordinators to DEED! Kelly Kleppen, Meng Moua, and Zukiswa Mpande-Olson joined our team in July. Please help us in congratulating Vanessa Roman on the birth of her baby girl on July 11<sup>th</sup>! Vanessa and baby Rosalia are doing well, and we anticipate Vanessa's return in early October.

The ACP is anticipating facilitating 2 ACP Specific Workforce One Training sessions in Oct. However, it is important that any new staff attend the ETP Programs Case Management Training as soon as possible after receiving WF1 access. This training offers users an overview and navigation of the site. The ACP specific WF1 training will be facilitated in a train-the-trainer model and will have limited space. All registrants must attend the ETP case management training prior. Watch out for an email to register for the ACP WF1 training session.

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## [Mn Family Resiliency Partnership](#)

(Federally known as Displaced Homemaker Program)

The ACP Team is excited to announce that Workforce Development Inc. (WDI) has been chosen to begin providing services to MFRP eligible participants in the SE Minnesota area beginning July 1, 2022. WDI will join five current MFRP providers in Mankato, St Cloud, Brainerd, the Metro area, and Virginia. For more information about the [Minnesota Family Resiliency Partnership program](#) check out DEED's ACP webpage.

## [Workforce One- ACP Programs](#)

Your ACP Coordinator is available assist you and your team with mapping participant activities, to align the approved work plan with ACP Workforce One activities. Activities entered on the participant record in Workforce One must be in line with the participant plan. Grantees should connect with their Grant Coordinator.

**As a Reminder:** Participants engaged in employment or employment-related activities at the time of enrollment must have those activities captured as an Activity in WF1.

The ACP Team updated the ACP Workforce One Guide is now posted to the ACP Webpage!

## [SNAP E&T 50/50](#)

This program has reimbursed its Grantees over \$55,000 so far in SFY22! If you are interested in adding SNAP E&T 50% Reimbursement program to your organization and have not heard from us, please contact Ann Meyers at [ann.meyers@state.mn.us](mailto:ann.meyers@state.mn.us).

## [Adult Career Pathways Guides](#)

**A reminder to all SFY22-23 ACP Grantees:** Please be sure you are using the most updated version of the DEED **required** Equal Opportunity of the Law (Complaint Discrimination) and How We Use Your Personal Information (Data Privacy) forms. These forms are available in multiple language from and can be found on the [ACP Webpage](#), within the [ACP Documentation Needed to Support Participant Eligibility](#) document.

Forms must be dated within the current grant cycle. For participants exited "Program Type Transfer" at the end of one grant cycle (SFY 21, for example) and re-enrolled into the next grant cycle (SFY 22, for example), new forms must be signed and dated when participant is re-enrolled.

Grantee must:

- Print *Equal Opportunity is the Law* and *How we Use Your Personal Information* back-to-back
- Have participant **initial** both "I Have read the..." attestations located above the signature line
- Have participant print his/her/their name, sign, and date the form

Retain a copy of this form in the participant's file

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The ACP [Operations Guide](#) has been updated for September and posted at [the ACP home page](#). If you have any suggestions for the guide, please submit those to your Grant Coordinator.

## Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

### Staffing Update

Tamika (Tami) Brewer is relocating to Iowa due to her husband's job. Tami's last day with TAA was September 2, and her caseload was distributed among other TAA Specialists.

### Sunset Provisions/ Reauthorization

As highlighted in the July and August Partner Express newsletters (available at this link: <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/dislocated-worker/counselors/news/>), the **TAA Program entered a phased termination** on 7/1/22. Although this impacts worker eligibility, **it does not immediately impact State operations**. Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 13-21 provides guidance on the impact of TAA program termination and continued operation of the TAA program. Link to TEGL 13-21: [https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=7913](https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=7913)

**Funding has been allocated through September 2024; even if there is no Congressional action, the funding will continue into 2027 at reduced rates** in order for TAA to fund the benefits that were already approved for customers. Congress could extend or reauthorize the program at any time as happened in 2002, 2009, 2011, and 2015.

For further information from U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), refer to these resources:

- Link to DOL blog, "States Must Provide TAA Benefits and Services after June 30, 2022" <https://taa.workforcegps.org/blog/general/2022/06/17/15/45/Termination-2022>
- Link to DOL's 6/30/22 webinar, "TAA Program Status" [https://taa.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/06/16/14/44/Sunset\\_webinar\\_063022](https://taa.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/06/16/14/44/Sunset_webinar_063022)

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### **1. What are sunset (also known as termination) provisions?**

**Answer:** Congress hasn't reauthorized the TAA program so states are implementing the termination provisions as outlined in [Training and Employment Guidance Letter \(TEGL\) 13-21](#). This guidance outlines the States' responsibilities on how to continue to serve customers through the TAA program.

### **2. Is the TAA program still available to customers?**

**Answer:** Yes. TAA is available to customers, and operations haven't changed for Dislocated Worker (DW) Counselors. TAA needs to be the primary source of funding for any DW/TAA customer seeking training, and/or job search and relocation assistance. Dislocated Worker Counselors should follow the usual process of submitting all applications to [deed.taa@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.taa@state.mn.us)

### **3. Who is eligible for TAA at this point?**

**Answer:** For the most part, anyone who received an eligibility letter from TAA and is not suitably employed is eligible to apply for TAA. Eligibility criteria for 2015 Law have not changed. For other versions of the

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program (such as Reversion 2021), please contact TAA with the customer's name for guidance. TAA staff (not DW) needs to make determinations (i.e. if person is eligible for TAA, if TAA has funding, if person is suitably employed, etc.)

**4. Will a customer currently in TAA-funded training have funds to finish that training?**

**Answer:** Yes. TAA will continue to fund training benefits for everyone who is approved for training.

**5. Do customers still get Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA)?**

**Answer:** The eligibility criteria for TRA did not change; TRA staff will continue to make determinations on a person's TRA.

**6. Can customers still apply for Alternative/Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (A/RTAA)?**

**Answer:** For all customers, the first A/RTAA payment had to have been made by 6/30/22. Those who received a payment by 6/30/22 can continue to receive A/RTAA payments. Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) staff determines a customer's A/RTAA eligibility and processes the payments. Although the sunset provisions indicate A/RTAA payments cannot be made unless the customer has received a payment before 6/30/2022, TAA recommends that the DW Counselor still have the customer complete the application. The DW Counselor should then follow the usual process and submit the required documents to [deed.taa@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.taa@state.mn.us). TAA/TRA will hold all A/RTAA applications for processing in the event of reauthorization.

**7. Can a customer who is laid off this fall still apply for TAA benefits?**

**Answer:** If the customer's petition is under 2015 Law, then it's likely the person can apply for TAA benefits. If the customer's petition is under 2021 Reversion, please contact TAA for a review of the customer's eligibility. Contact TAA if there are questions about what Law or petition the customer is eligible under.

**8. What will happen if TAA is not reauthorized?**

**Answer:** Department of Labor will provide guidance to the States. As of now, the program has full funding through September 2024 and then states would continue to receive reduced funds into 2027 in order to fulfill benefits that had been approved for customers.

## Petitions

During sunset provisions, petitions can still be filed, but DOL's investigation is paused until reauthorization occurs. Here's the link to check the status of all petitions with U.S. Department of Labor:

[https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/petitioners/taa\\_search\\_form.cfm](https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/petitioners/taa_search_form.cfm)

- Certified in late June
  - 98313 – Measurement Specialties/TE Connectivity , Andover (ATAA denied)
  - 98315 - BCS Automotive Interface Solutions, Winona (ATAA denied)
  - 98319 - EcoWater Systems LLC, Woodbury (ATAA denied)
- Filed after July 1 (DOL's investigation will start after program's reauthorization)
  - TBD – Torax Medical, St Paul