

# Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, January 24, 2024

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## Staffing Updates:

- ETPL Administrator: **Thomas Sommer**
- RETAIN Employer engagement specialist (DWFAP): **Margaret Odanga**
- Program Policy Specialist: **to be posted soon**
- Data and Performance Specialist: **to be posted soon**
- [Search Jobs / Careers in the State of Minnesota \(mn.gov\)](#)

## Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs (DWFAP)

### Grants and Contracts

- **Monthly Financial Status Report (FSR)/Monthly Reimbursement Payment Request (RPR):**
  - Due the 20th day of the month following the preceding month-end. For example, the June RPR/FSR (June 30 end date) is due July 20.
  - Report accrued monthly expenditures.
  - A monthly RPR/FSR is required even if no funds were expended.

*Important Reminder:* Per your master contract agreement, funds are to be expended in the cost categories and amounts shown in the approved budget, which identifies allowable costs. As such, grantees need to follow their signed grant agreement, work plans and activity

## Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Board (MJSP)

- **The next meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024.**
  - Supplemental Funding Requests are due February 5<sup>th</sup>, 30 days before the meeting. [Forms](#) can be found on the Office of Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs web page.
  - Get more information on the MJSP Board [web page](#).

## Re-entry Pilot Grant

- Quarterly Progress Reports are due January 31, 2024, for the quarter ended December 31, 2023.
- Support Services waiver is only for license reinstatement fees.
- Period of Performance extension date to June 30, 2025.

## Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

### **Minnesota's Earned Sick and Safe Time law impact on SCSEP Participants:**

- DEED is actively collaborating with National Office to formulate guidance that complies with the new law and federal requirements.

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**Equitable Distribution Report:** Report Submission due February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Grantee Performance Management System (GPMS):

- Since the transitioning to a new system GPMS, SCSEP is experiencing positive outcomes through collaborative efforts in terms of data collection. The regular GPMS vLive Virtual Office Hours offer real-time communication to create a collaborative environment, encouraging active participation. The GPMS team is actively addressing immediate issues and documenting those requiring further research or technical solutions, emphasizing the importance of engagement and feedback. The primary objective is to enhance the system's effectiveness, making it a valuable tool for SCSEP providers. Users have access to a variety of resources in the Workforce GPS archive, including training webinars, virtual live events, and newsletters, with the latest being the January 2024 Issue 1 Vol 2. The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section is also available for reference before submitting new inquiries.

### Retaining Employment and Talent after Injury/Illness Network (RETAIN)

- 2,600 participants across 76 counties enrolled to date.
- The clinical trial phase of RETAIN ends 5/18/2024, afterwards the program will no longer have a control group and all eligible participants will be able to access services.

Please contact DWFAP staff if you have any questions about required disclaimer for publicity materials.

### [Use Dislocated Worker General Email to Reach All Team Members](#)

Please continue to email requests, reports, technical assistance questions, etc. to the Dislocated Worker Federal Adult Programs general email at [DWFAPrograms.DEED@state.mn.us](mailto:DWFAPrograms.DEED@state.mn.us).

### Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

*Please email all questions and customer applications to the Trade Adjustment Assistance general email at [deed.taa@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.taa@state.mn.us)*

### TAA Program Status and Funding

TEGL 07-23 - *Ongoing Operations of the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers Program During Phase-Out Termination* has been added to the ETA Advisory database and is now available at [TEGL 07-23 | U.S. Department of Labor \(dol.gov\)](#).

As a reminder, the **TAA program has funding and continues to serve customers**. TAA must be the primary source of funding for customers who are eligible. [Previous Partner Express newsletters](#) include articles related to the phased termination that the TAA Program entered on 7/1/22. The U.S. Department of Labor released TEGL 14-22 - *Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers Program Phase-out Termination Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*, and is available at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/tegl-14-22>.

TAA will perform various outreach efforts this winter to ensure those who are eligible for TAA are aware of the benefits available. **Contact TAA with outreach suggestions or to ask about an individual's eligibility.**

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## Virtual Informational Sessions

Minnesota TAA is **hosting virtual informational sessions on January 26 and February 15** for people who may be eligible to apply for TAA benefits under older petitions. The team invites people based on their petition and layoff dates. As always, TAA will refer attendees to enroll in the DW program to access their TAA benefits. Thank you in advance for your work to serve these shared customers, some of whom may have been laid off under a TAA petition years ago. Links to the sessions are at <https://www.careerforcemn.com/TAA>

## Tax time

While **only Unemployment/TRA and RTAA are taxable income for TAA customers**, some students may receive a 1098-T from their training institution. The national TAA office indicates, “The training provider is to report the total cost of the program in Box 1 and Box 5. These amounts should, in nearly all cases should be identical. As such, the amounts would cancel each other out. This would mean the participant is not able to claim any relevant tax credits when filing. It also means the filing individual would not report the amount as excessive income.”

## Federal Mileage Rate in 2024

The IRS announced the **federal mileage rate for 2024** is 67 cents per mile for those going to training or Job Search. TAA is updating the bi-weekly transportation forms to reflect this new rate. For customers using Relocation Allowance, the mileage rate is 21 cents per mile in 2024.

## Petitions

**Petitions can still be filed**, but DOL’s investigation is paused until program restoration or reauthorization.

Here’s the link to check the status of petitions with U.S. Department of Labor:

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact>

Filed after July 1, 2022

- Torax Medical, St Paul
- Turck, Inc., Plymouth
- Ball Corp, St Paul
- Nordson Medical, Eagan
- Optum, Hopkins
- United Language Group, Minneapolis
- Sleep Number, Minneapolis