

Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, February 28, 2024

[Partner Express monthly newsletter](#)

Please be sure to subscribe to the Partner Express using this link:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNDEED/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNDEED_109

Staffing Updates:

- **Hony Yang** recently started a new position within the Employment and Training Programs division.
- Program Policy Specialist: **Job ID:** 73246, closes 3/6/24.
- [Search Jobs / Careers in the State of Minnesota \(mn.gov\)](#)

Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs (DWFAP)

Posted for public comments:

- WIOA 2024-2027 State Plan Title I and III Proposed Performance Goals Open for Public Comment
 - The proposed Performance Goals for the following WIOA programs can be found on the Governor's Workforce Development Board website, along with the full 2024-2027 Combined State Plan draft:
 - Title I of WIOA: the Adult program, the Dislocated Worker program, and the Youth program
 - Title III of WIOA: the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service program (authorized under the Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended by Title III)
- TAA policies, comment period closing March 12th:
 - Appeals Process
 - Appropriate Use of Waivers
 - Choice of Training Institutions
- Data Validation Process policy, closing March 29th, 2024.

Data and Performance

- Q4 Performance Scorecard will be emailed performance scorecards with be emailed to local area management teams in the upcoming days.
-

WIOA DW and Adult Estimated Budget Projections from TEN 19-23:

	SFY23 (PY22) Funded*	SFY24 (PY23) Funded*	SFY25 Estimate (PY24)**	Potential change if funded at TEN 15-22 Estimates
WIOA Youth	\$10,497,536	\$9,597,650	\$8,637,885	90.0% of previous funding \$959,765 decrease
WIOA Adult	\$8,866,650	\$8,120,707	\$7,308,636	90.0% of previous funding \$812,071 decrease
WIOA Dislocated Worker	\$9,426,224	\$8,644,757	\$8,541,759	98.8% of previous funding \$102,998 decrease
TOTALS	\$28,790,410	\$26,363,114	\$24,488,280	92.9% of previous funding \$1,874,834 decrease

*From [TEGL 15-22](#) and **From [TEN 19-23](#)

Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, February 28, 2024

Federal TEGL:

- TEGL 10-23 – *Reducing Administrative Barriers to Improve Customer Experience in Grant Programs Administered by the Employment and Training Administration* – has been added to the ETA Advisory database and is now available at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/tegl-10-23>.
- Released on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, the purpose of this guidance is to provide grant recipients direction in developing policies, procedures, and practices that reduce unnecessary administrative barriers to serving customers seeking employment and training services.

Formula Funds – WIOA Adult, WIOA DW and State DW

Friendly Reminders:

- Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs):
 - Please use this updated form that allows for reporting on two funding streams of the same grant running simultaneously.
- 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.
 - Be sure to stay within your approved cost categories.

Minnesota Jobs Skills Partnership (MJSP) Board Quarterly Meeting

- The next meeting of the Board will be held on **Monday, March 4, 2024 (virtual meeting)**.
- Get more information on the MJSP Board [web page](#).

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

- Celebrating another milestone: 2,700+ enrollments!
- We're back on the air! MN RETAIN radio ads are playing across the state through the end of May 2024.
- Visit the [Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund](#) to see how small to medium sized businesses can take advantage of reimbursements for employee accommodations!
- RETAIN staff have presented to several WDAs and their Career Navigators – email john.connell@state.mn.us if you're interested in learning more about how RETAIN can support your clients
- If you or someone you know have an injury or illness that affects work? Visit mnretain.com to see if RETAIN could help

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

- DOL Roundtable held in Indianapolis, IN, Feb. 20-22, 2024
- Updates:
 - The October 2024 SCSEP funding reauthorization is a crucial opportunity for legislative updates aligning with program needs.
 - Addressing prevailing wage issues is pivotal, necessitating a comprehensive review to ensure uniform application across grantees and protect SCSEP funding.

Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, February 28, 2024

- National Able Network's model for prevailing wage, being developed in collaboration with region 5, serves as a potential strategy for other grantees.
- Best Practices:
 - Kansas and Nebraska's 100% co-enrollment streamlines participant screening, enhancing efficiency.
 - Easterseals centralized ITIS/GPMS grant administration optimizes service delivery and Technical Assistance, offering flexibility based on pre-surveyed needs.
 - Vantage Aging's Navigator Model to administer its SCSEP's ATSS/ Training Waiver enables personalized remote training.
 - Indiana State's WIN Learning program equips learners with free basic skills for career and life success.

Equitable Distribution.

Every year, SCSEP conducts an analysis on Equitable Distribution (ED) for all its grantees nationwide.

What is ED?

Equitable Distribution represents the commitment to serving each county in proportion to its allocated number of positions, forming an integral part of the grant obligation. Grantees are expected to recruit participants from counties based on the authorized number of positions, and adherence to ED is crucial. Grantees must vigilantly monitor and adjust enrollments in counties as needed to fully align with ED as much as possible. It's important to note that while compliance with ED is encouraged, grantees are not obligated to consistently serve every county at the exact ED level.

Determining Authorized Positions (AP):

The number of Authorized Positions (AP) is determined by statute and the annual funding allocated by Congress. This allocation is specific to each state, with the distribution of AP among counties based on each county's percentage of the SCSEP-eligible population, as determined by the Census. ED is recalibrated for each national grantee competition, and AP is adjusted annually based on the existing ED and Congressional appropriations.

The Significance of ED:

Equitable Distribution ensures that every eligible individual in a state has an equitable opportunity to enroll in SCSEP. This measure prevents grantees from favoring areas with higher concentrations of host agencies and job opportunities, promoting fairness in participant selection.

Authorized vs. Modified Positions:

Authorized positions are computed by dividing the total funds appropriated for a program year by the national average unit cost per participant, calculated based on the federal minimum wage. While Modified Positions (MP) were introduced by the Department of Labor (DOL) to address disparities between local and federal minimum wages. Given that SCSEP funding is based on the federal minimum wage, but grantees are obligated to adhere to any higher local minimum wage, MP reflects the number of positions that can feasibly be supported. This adjustment ensures accurate budgeting and resource allocation, accounting for varying minimum wage rates across localities.

Question: Do you know which counties you are authorized to serve and at what AP level? if not please contact your SCSEP Program Coordinator.

Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, February 28, 2024

Check out the [updated SCSEP web page](#) for information and resources. We'll continue to update the page as needed.

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 DWFAPPrograms.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

WF1 Feature: Checking TAA Eligibility at Time of DW Enrollment

TAA is proud to announce a Workforce One (WF1) system modification that will **alert Dislocated Worker Counselors of a customer's possible TAA eligibility at the time of DW enrollment.**

TAA hopes this WF1 feature will assist in identifying additional customers who are eligible for the TAA program. Contact TAA with any questions related to this new alert.

Please check out the **4-minute training video** at [this link](#) which walks you through the DW side of the feature in WF1.

Virtual Informational Sessions on March 26

Minnesota TAA is **hosting virtual informational sessions on March 26** at 12:00pm and 7:30pm 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>

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 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>.

Dislocated Worker and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program Updates

MAWB Job Seeker Services Meeting, February 28, 2024

TAA will perform various outreach efforts this winter and spring 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.**

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
- Tescom Corporation, Elk River