

WIOA Desk Reference

National Dislocated Worker Grants

About WIOA

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Pub. L. 113-128) strengthens and improves our nation's public workforce system, which helps Americans, including veterans and eligible spouses, get into high-quality jobs and careers and helps businesses hire and retain skilled workers. WIOA ensures that the needs of businesses and workers drive workforce solutions; reaffirms the role of the one-stop delivery system to provide customer-driven services; and enhances and increases coordination among several key employment, education, and training programs.

National Dislocated Worker Grants

National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) provide employment and training services to reemploy laid off workers in response to major layoff events causing significant job losses. In addition, DWGs may fund disaster relief employment to assist with recovery efforts in federally declared disaster areas.

GRANTEES

Eligible applicants for DWGs may include:

- ◆ A designated WIOA program agency in a state or outlying area;
- ◆ A Local Workforce Development Board; and
- ◆ Entities eligible to receive funding under 166(c) of WIOA (the Indian and Native American Program).

TARGET POPULATIONS

Individuals eligible to receive services under DWGs include:

- ◆ Individuals who have been terminated or laid off through no fault of their own;
- ◆ Separating service members;
- ◆ Individuals who are displaced homemakers;
- ◆ Individuals who are military spouses of active duty service members and who meet certain criteria;
- ◆ Individuals dislocated from employment due to federally declared emergencies or disasters; and
- ◆ A long-term unemployed individual (eligible for disaster events only).

Learn More About WIOA

Information and **guidance** for WIOA can be found here: doleta.gov/WIOA

ION, the technical assistance initiative for WIOA, can be accessed by visiting **WorkforceGPS** here: ion.workforcegps.org



The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

SERVICES

Services provided to eligible individuals through DWGs include:

- ◆ Career Services:
 - ◇ Basic (e.g. career counseling, workforce and labor market information, referrals to partners)
 - ◇ Individualized (e.g. specialized assessments, career planning, work experiences)
- ◆ Training Services:
 - ◇ Work-based Training (On-the-Job training, Registered Apprenticeship, Customized Training)
 - ◇ Occupational Skills Training (training from Eligible Training Providers)
- ◆ Disaster Relief Employment:
 - ◇ Temporary employment on projects that provide food, clothing, shelter, and other humanitarian assistance for emergency and disaster victims
 - ◇ Temporary employment on projects regarding demolition, cleaning, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of damaged and destroyed structures, facilities, and lands located within a disaster area

QUALIFYING EVENTS

Major economic dislocations or other events that qualify for a DWG include:

- ◆ Plant closures or mass layoffs affecting 50 or more workers;
- ◆ Closures and realignments of military installations;
- ◆ Situations where a higher-than-average demand for employment and training activities for dislocated members of the Armed Forces exceeds state and local resources for providing such activities;
- ◆ Emergencies or major disasters which have been declared eligible for public assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- ◆ An emergency or disaster situation of national significance declared or otherwise recognized by a Federal Agency; and
- ◆ Other events as determined by the Secretary of Labor.

RESOURCES

- ◆ For more information on National Dislocated Worker Grants, please visit <https://www.doleta.gov/DWGs>.

For Program and Operating Guidance on National Dislocated Worker Grants, please read [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 02-15 Attachment II](#), contained in [Training and Employment Letter 02-15](#).

WIOA Implementation Technical Assistance

The Innovation and Opportunity Network (ION) is a community of practitioners, program staff, partners, planners, industry leaders, and stakeholders that strive for system improvement, capacity building, and excellence in the public workforce system. ION is a national, regional, state, and local alliance that makes available the technical assistance, information sharing, and training needed to implement the vision of WIOA. Visit ION at: <https://ion.workforcegps.org>.

