



Dislocated Worker Training National Emergency Grant

In June 2013, the U.S. Department of Labor issued Dislocated Worker Training National Emergency Grant funds to increase the number of dislocated workers receiving training through the public workforce system. ODJFS received \$3,413,653 – the fifth largest award in the nation. The grant period is July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2015.

Funds will be distributed among the local workforce investment areas according to a ratio that takes into account the total number of unemployed individuals and the total number of dislocated workers enrolled in Workforce Investment Act training in each county. ODJFS will issue the funds incrementally to each area for 12 months. At the end of the first year, the remaining funds will be distributed based on year-one expenditures.

Requirements

The grant covers training-related costs, including activities related to the arrangement, approval, and monitoring of classroom training and/or up to six months of on-the-job training (OJT) for eligible participants. The training must result in an industry-recognized credential in a high-demand occupation.

Classroom and non-OJT training must be completed within nine months. Between 25 and 60 percent of the funding must be spent on OJT. A maximum of 8 percent of the grant may be used for local administrative costs. It cannot pay for core, intensive or supportive workforce services, including case management and needs-related payments.

Only employers in the private for-profit and nonprofit sectors are eligible for OJT funds. Public-sector employers, casinos and gaming establishments, zoos, swimming pools, aquariums, and golf courses are not eligible. Eligible employers may offer wages of up to the state's average hourly rate of \$20.52 and may be reimbursed up to \$8,000 per participant.

Participant Eligibility

Each participant must live in Ohio and/or be placed in OJT at an Ohio business establishment. Priority of service will be given to dislocated workers who have been unemployed for at least 27 weeks, to those who have been determined to be likely to exhaust their unemployment compensation benefits, and to veterans, including returning service members.

Dislocated workers who need help paying for training may inquire about the grant at their county OhioMeansJobs Centers.

For more information, email WIAQNA@jfs.ohio.gov or call (888) 296-7541, option 3.