

## DCEO Office of Employment & Training

June 15, 2023

### FORMULA FUNDS - STATE FISCAL YEARS 2020 - 2024

Every year, Congress appropriates funds for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which are distributed to States based on unemployment data and poverty levels. These funds support workforce development activities administered by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

After the state is notified of its allotment, a portion of the funds (up to 15%) are reserved by the DCEO Office of Employment & Training (OET) for administration and statewide activities. Up to 25% can also be designated for Rapid Response to support individuals at risk of or experiencing layoffs.

Using a federal formula, the remaining funds are allocated to the 22 Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) by the Office of Employment & Training to provide employment and training services in their designated areas. Below are the state's funds for fiscal years 2020 – 2024.

<i>FUNDING STREAM</i>	<i>STATE FY20</i>	<i>STATE FY21</i>	<i>STATE FY22</i>	<i>STATE FY23</i>	<i>STATE FY24</i>
<b>Youth</b>	36,885,006	41,914,775	39,042,139	35,987,495	37,041,518
<b>Adult</b>	34,729,488	39,449,419	36,783,912	33,865,791	35,091,899
<b>Dislocated Worker</b>	43,416,962	41,081,066	41,519,043	37,422,788	46,475,419
<b>Total Local Funding</b>	<b>115,031,456</b>	<b>122,445,260</b>	<b>117,345,094</b>	<b>107,276,074</b>	<b>118,608,836</b>
<b>State Administration</b>	7,026,066	7,482,560	6,780,495	6,219,663	7,341,503
<b>Statewide Activities</b>	9,792,413	11,223,839	6,780,495	6,219,663	14,683,007
<b>STATE Rapid Response</b>	9,083,502	8,499,531	4,703,809	4,677,847	6,196,722
<b>Total</b>	<b>140,933,437</b>	<b>149,651,190</b>	<b>135,609,893</b>	<b>124,393,247</b>	<b>146,830,068</b>
<i>Change from the Prior Year</i>	<b>-5,424,797</b>	<b>8,717,753</b>	<b>-14,041,297</b>	<b>-11,216,646</b>	<b>22,436,821</b>

### COMPETITIVE (Non-Formula) FEDERAL WORKFORCE FUNDS

Besides the federal allocation to the local areas, OET secured funding for the subsequent multi-year competitive workforce grants.

- **Apprenticeship USA Grants** - DCEO received \$5.9 million from the US Department of Labor to further their efforts in expanding apprenticeship programs. This involves collaborating with industry leaders, state agency heads, and other stakeholders to establish valuable partnerships and promote apprenticeships as a viable workforce solution across various industries.
- **National Dislocated Worker Program (NDWG)** - The US Department of Labor provides non-formula grants to assist dislocated workers in obtaining training and career services. These services aim to enhance their skill levels and increase their competitiveness for high-demand or growing employment opportunities when re-entering the workforce.
  - Illinois was awarded an \$11.1 million grant under the *Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training* National Dislocated Worker Grants.
  - Illinois was one of the only states in the Midwest Region to be awarded a grant under the 2021 Comprehensive and Accessible Reemployment Through Equitable Employment Recovery (CAREER DWG). DCEO issued grants to four local workforce areas to serve more than 200 dislocated workers.
  - Illinois was awarded an \$8.325 million grant for the *COVID-19 Disaster Recovery* and an \$8.325 million grant for the *COVID-19 Employment Recovery* efforts in Illinois.
  - Illinois was awarded a \$5.6 million grant to serve more the 300 participants under the *National Health Emergency Phase Two: Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants to Address the Opioid Crisis*.

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- *Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development (PROWD)* - The DCEO received \$10 million from the US Department of Labor for the PROWD Initiative in Illinois. The initiative will provide workforce development services to around 750 individuals in federal prisons and reentry centers. Commerce will work with industry and employer partners to customize the program to fit each facility's needs. Locations include Greenville, Marion, Pekin, and Thompson, in four residential reentry centers ("RRCs") and upon release into the community. Elements of the program design include:
  - Adaptation of the U.S. Department of Defense Transition Assistance Program.
  - Returning Resident Advocates and Interdisciplinary Integration Teams. Illinois has developed a framework for the First Step Act Initiative that leverages relational and team approaches to returning resident success. In each of the four regions served by this Grant, teams will be established both within and outside the prison facilities and RRCs to support individuals throughout their incarceration, transition, and return to the community;
  - A “Whole Household” Approach to Supporting Returning Residents’ Success. In addressing the specific barriers to reintegrating residents for success in Illinois communities, the project will leverage a “whole household” approach to services;
  - Leveraging Illinois' Approach to Career Pathways and Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

**Competitive Non-Formula Workforce Funds Administered by DCEO for State Fiscal Year 2019-2023**

PROGRAM	STATE FY19	STATE FY20	STATE FY21	STATE FY22	STATE FY23
Apprenticeship Expansion Program	\$2,190,458	\$450,000	\$5,998,928		
NDWG - <i>Opioid</i>	\$5,600,000				
NDWG – <i>COVID</i>		\$16,650,000			
NDWG - <i>CAREER</i>			\$3,000,000		
NDWG - <i>QUEST</i>				\$11,147,910	
Workforce Data Quality Initiative	\$1,100,000				
PROWD					\$10,000,000
<b>TOTAL NON-FORMULA GRANTS</b>	<b>\$8,890,458</b>	<b>\$17,100,000</b>	<b>\$8,998,928</b>	<b>\$11,147,910</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

**APPLICATIONS PENDING**

There are several pending applications at OET, all awaiting funding decisions. These applications aim to enhance access to traditionally underserved populations and broaden adult and youth apprenticeship opportunities.

- *2023 Apprenticeship Expansion Funds* – The US Department of Labor has announced that they provide \$40 million in formula grants to help states expand registered apprenticeships. This funding opportunity is expected to be the first of a five-year program. In Illinois, the formula funding is \$1,308,613, and it will be available for 12 months, from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. These funds will be distributed to the 22 Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) to help them create regional industry sector partnerships and develop strategies to expand registered apprenticeship programs with the help of integrated business service teams.
- *2023 Quality Jobs Equity Strategy and Training NDWG* – DCEO has requested \$5 million under the 2023 Quality Jobs Equity Strategy and Training (QUEST) National Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG). Up to 310 workers will be helped with obtaining employment and assisting the employer/business community in creating and expanding good jobs. This will be achieved through strategic partnerships, targeted community outreach, strategic business engagement activities, comprehensive employment and training services, supportive services, and disaster relief employment. Participant services are customized and include career, training, work-based learning, supportive services, and disaster relief employment.

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- *National Governors Associations Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship Policy Academy (\$50,000)* - DCEO has applied to the National Governor's Association's Policy Academy to promote youth apprenticeships. The aim is to establish a statewide Youth Apprenticeship Ecosystem where education, workforce, and economic development systems cooperate and have a clear vision, effective communication channels, and shared responsibilities to support the expansion of youth apprenticeship. By participating in this academy, Illinois hopes to gain knowledge and tools to expand high-quality apprenticeship opportunities for high school-aged youth, aligning with Governor Pritzker's goals. Collaboration and knowledge-sharing with other states facing similar challenges are also anticipated.

### STATE WORKFORCE FUNDS

The state has prioritized ensuring those historically underrepresented populations residing in underserved communities have equal access to jobs and economic growth. Historic investments have been made to support this priority. Below are programs DCEO has put into place or will be developing.

- *Job Training and Economic Development (JTED)* – DCEO allocated \$30 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support workforce recovery. The focus is on employer-driven training methods that combine education and occupational training with on-the-job learning. This program prioritizes services for people living in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) or Disproportionality Impacted Areas (DIAs).
  - DCEO released \$20 million in May 2021 for a NOFO to support regional and local economic development for businesses and individuals most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In May 2022, 44 grants totaling \$20 Million were announced to serve approximately 2,500 unemployed, under-employed, or under-represented individuals, including youth with one or more barriers to employment. The grants run from May 2022 – April 2024.
  - This summer, an extra \$10 million will be allocated to extend the range of unemployed, under-employed, or under-represented individuals who will receive employment and training services, enabling them to become self-sufficient.
- *Home Illinois* – DCEO plans to utilize \$5 million in state funds to establish collaborations between local workforce innovation areas and continuum of care areas. These partnerships aim to create job and training prospects for individuals facing homelessness or unstable housing circumstances and assist them in securing stable housing.
- *Supplemental LWIA funding* – DCEO received \$5 million in state funding to support workforce services for those LWIAs that need supplemental funding. These funds will be distributed based on a needs assessment developed by OET.

Governor Pritzker signed a comprehensive energy legislation called CEJA in September 2021. The law aims to transition Illinois towards 100% clean energy and invest in training a diverse workforce to support clean energy. CEJA workforce programs and their progress are listed below. These programs are expected to offer their services in the fall 2023 and winter 2024.

- *Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship* - CEJA has set aside \$10 million to create pre-apprenticeship programs to train individuals for construction and building trades that are projected to experience significant growth in clean energy jobs. These programs will be provided in three regional centers in Illinois, starting in the autumn of 2023. Additionally, \$6 million per year will be allocated to the Energy Transition Barrier Reduction Program services. Interested parties can submit their applications before the July 3, 2023, deadline, as stated in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

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- *Energy Transition Navigators* – An annual allocation of \$6 million has been set aside to fund the Energy Transition Navigators program. This initiative aims to provide outreach, education, and recruitment to eligible individuals who wish to participate in CEJA workforce programs. Additionally, the program will work closely with local job markets and workforce organizations to help place trainees in clean energy-related careers. Interested parties can submit their applications until August 15, 2023, in response to the recently issued Notice of Funding Opportunity. DCEO plans to select up to 13 teams to deliver the Energy Transition Navigators Program.
- *Clean Energy Workforce Network Hubs* - DCEO is set to establish 13 Workforce Hubs to provide training, certification preparation, and skill development for individuals seeking entry-level jobs in clean energy-related industries. The program has received dedicated funding of \$24 million per year. Additionally, the Workforce Hubs will receive an extra \$15 million annually to offer Energy Transition Barrier Reduction services, providing comprehensive support to program participants. The DCEO will grant up to 13 annual awards amounting to \$39 million. This program's Notice of Funding Opportunity is expected to be released in the summer of 2023.
- *Returning Residents Program* – Individuals in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections will be prepared for entry-level clean energy jobs. Participants will receive essential employability skills training as part of vocational or occupational training. The training will lead to certifications or credentials that prepare candidates for employment. \$6 million in funding will be allocated to this program. A Notice of Funding Opportunity of \$6 million for this program is expected to be released in late 2023. DCEO will select Program Administrators for each delivery area and training providers. The number of awards has not been determined.