

**WorkForce West Virginia Guidance Notice No. 02-18-26**  
**Disaster National Dislocated Worker Grants (NDWGs)**

**TO:** NDWG Project Operator  
Eligibility Staff  
Workforce Development Boards

**FROM:** Martha Craig-Hinchman  
Assistant Director  
Employment Service Division

**DATE:** February 26, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Disaster National Dislocated Worker Grants (NDWGs)  
Participant Eligibility Definitions

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 26, 2018

- I. REFERENCE(S):** Federal Register / Vol. 81 No. 161 page 56247, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, TEGL 2-15 National Dislocated Worker Grant (NDWG) Policy Guidance dated July 1, 2015. WIOA Law (3) (15), Attachment III Definitions. WIOA Sec. 170 (d)(2).
- II. PURPOSE:** This Guidance is in regard to the participant eligibility definitions for disaster NDWG participants.
- III. BACKGROUND:** NDWGs are the discretionary grants awarded by the Secretary of Labor (the secretary), pursuant to Section 687 of WIOA, as amended. In response to a natural disaster, those individuals who are eligible recipients of short-term temporary employment services must meet the NDWG disaster eligibility guidelines.

**See Excerpt below following TEGl 2-15 Disaster Eligibility Criteria**

**NOTE: Participants must first be determined eligible as defined in WIOA Section 170(d)(2) (For dual enrollment purposes, participants will have WIOA eligibility and NDWG eligibility determined.)**

**The following NDWG eligibility requirements apply to the following individuals residing within the declared disaster area, or who are forced to relocate due to the disaster or emergency event:**

- 1. Individuals who are temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the disaster;**
- 2. Other eligible dislocated workers as defined in WIOA Section (3) (15);**
- 3. Long-term unemployed workers, as defined by the State -- Individuals who are long-term unemployed 27 consecutive weeks or more.**
- 4. Self-employed individuals who become unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the emergency or disaster.**

**Although the major eligibility priority is individuals who were displaced due to the disaster, other individuals who reside outside the disaster area may be determined eligible to participate in the temporary disaster clean-up employment if they meet the other NDWG eligibility requirements.**

**Outreach efforts should emphasize workers who lost employment as a result of the disaster. Veterans' preference applies within these eligible groups.**

**Before the long-term unemployed /WIOA adult category is used for determining eligibility, additional research for categories one (1) and two (2) should be performed to determine as many participants possible as dislocated workers as defined by TEGl 19-16, Attachment III definitions.**