

## COVID 19 NHEG Press Release

WorkForce West Virginia, on behalf of the State of West Virginia, has been awarded \$1.5 million by the United States Department of Labor for a COVID-19 National Dislocated Worker Grant (NDWG). This funding provides temporary disaster relief employment and classroom or on-line training in a demand occupation for individuals meet eligibility criteria.

The COVID-19 National Health Emergency grant offers temporary employment opportunities to qualifying participants. To qualify participants must:

Be dislocated (laid off) due to the COVID-19 Pandemic or;

1. Be working reduced hours due to the COVID-19 Pandemic or;
2. Be dislocated (laid off) from any employer or;
3. Be unemployed for any 13 weeks out of the last 26 weeks or;
4. Be underemployed (earning 80% less than prior wages) or;
5. Be a self-employed individual who became unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Qualifying participants can work in the following temporary employment activities for 1,080 hours or 12 months whichever occurs first:

1. Janitor/Cleaner earning \$13.00 per hour
2. Receptionist/ Information Clerks earning \$13.00 per hour (vaccine appts/outreach)
3. Shuttle Driver/Chauffer earning \$13.00 per hour (to and from vaccine appts)
4. File Clerks earning \$15.00 per hour (contact tracing)

All participants may be eligible for up to \$600.00 in Supportive Services. Supportive Services include:

1. Transportation assistance and auto repairs;
2. Child care and dependent care costs;
3. Housing and utility assistance;
4. Groceries and hygiene items (including haircuts);
5. Assistance with medical and prescription (including eyeglasses) services;
6. Interview clothing, uniforms, and other appropriate work attire;
7. Tools or other work or training-related materials;
8. Job-related adult basic education and English as a Second Language training;
9. Translation services;
10. Non-commercial driver's license training and assistance with driver's license fees;
11. Work and training-related licenses, permits, and fees;
12. Assistance with special services and materials for individuals with disabilities;
13. Out-of-state job search and relocation to a new job;

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14. Legal aid services meant to reduce barriers to employment and establish employment eligibility such as by helping secure a driver's license, expunging criminal records, and addressing debts or credit reporting issues.

Participants may also be able to have training paid for in demand occupations. Demand occupations are listed at <http://lmi.workforcewv.org/LTprojections/LTDemandOccs.html>

Please contact Jamie Moore, Project Director at 304-317-7486 or email [WVInfo@equusworks.com](mailto:WVInfo@equusworks.com) for additional information

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