

**WorkForce West Virginia Guidance Notice
No. 02-18-26 Change 1
Disaster National Dislocated Worker Grants (NDWGs)**

TO: NDWG Project Operator
Eligibility Staff
Workforce Development Boards

FROM: Amber Jackson
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DATE: February 26, 2018

CHANGE 1: June 22, 2021

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 22, 2021

- 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 November 2, 2020 WIOA Law (3) (15), Attachment III Definitions. WIOA Sec. 170 (d)(2).
- II. PURPOSE:** This Guidance is regarding 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 12-19 Change 1 Disaster Eligibility Criteria

NOTE: Participants must first be determined eligible as defined in WIOA Section 170(d)(2) (For co-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.~~ Individuals who are long-term unemployed for any 13 weeks out of the last 26 weeks.**
- 4. Self-employed individuals who become unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the 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 NDWG eligibility criteria.

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.