

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 13-64

Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: November 22, 2013

Subject: **National Emergency Grants (NEG) Information Update**

Purpose: To provide a general overview of National Emergency Grant services and specific information regarding NEG funded-projects currently operating in Massachusetts.

Background: The purpose of National Emergency Grants (NEG) is to temporarily expand service capacity at the state and local levels by providing time-limited funding assistance in response to significant dislocation events. Significant events are those that create a sudden need for assistance that cannot reasonably be expected to be accommodated within the on-going operations of the formula-funded Dislocated Worker program including the discretionary resources reserved at the state level. NEG's are federal grants that provide funds to assist workers affected by workforce reductions and company closings. The grants are written for specific industries, companies or clusters of companies that are closing or implementing downsizing initiatives of significant proportion.

NEG services are designed to provide timely, targeted, innovative approaches in response to an increased need for employment services and training created by the dislocation event. NEG projects, in coordination with Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Centers, partner agencies and the business community assist workers to become reemployed, and when needed, to develop the skills required by specific employers, occupations and industries.

National Emergency Grants benefit workers who have lost their jobs due to layoff or company closure. NEG customers are employees of the companies named in the specific grant who have been laid off or who have received notice of impending layoff.

NEG projects provide creative, customer-oriented programs and services designed to help dislocated workers successfully transition to new employment and in some cases new careers. Services are tailored to the individual, and may include assessment, career counseling, basic education (including English for Speakers of Other Languages), occupational training and job search/placement assistance. NEG services are designed to produce high-quality earnings and employment outcomes. In order to achieve these outcomes, some dislocated workers may need occupational training to supplement or replace skills that are associated with declining occupations/industries. For these customers, training programs are available through the Massachusetts Individual Training Account (ITA) system.

Information regarding NEG services may be obtained at any One-Stop Career Center.

NEG projects include a component referred to as “vouchering,” through which employees from the NEG subject companies who worked in or reside in a different locale than the One-Stop Career Center that is operating the grant, may receive NEG-funded services from any One-Stop Career Center in Massachusetts.

Currently, there are twelve NEG projects operating in Massachusetts, representing over \$25,400,000 in funds dedicated to workers dislocated from the subject companies. Attached, please find the **Massachusetts National Emergency Grants Compendium**, which includes a listing of NEG projects and subject companies. **Please ensure that every individual who provides information to customers receives and understands this information.**

Inquiries: Questions should be directed to Diane Hurley at 617-626-5701 or dhurley@detma.org.

Attachment: Massachusetts National Emergency Grants Compendium