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Programs Available to Unemployed Workers through the American Job Center Network

Benjamin Collins

Analyst in Labor Policy

David H. Bradley

Specialist in Labor Economics

Katelin P. Isaacs

Analyst in Income Security

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Summary

Many federally funded programs that assist unemployed workers are co-located and coordinated through state-run American Job Centers (AJCs; also known as One-Stop Career Centers). The specific set of benefits and services available to a worker through the AJC network varies by the worker's characteristics and reason for unemployment.

Unemployment insurance (UI) is a federal-state system and mandatory AJC partner. UI benefits are available to workers who have involuntarily lost their jobs and have demonstrated a required level of labor force attachment. UI provides weekly cash payments to replace a portion of eligible workers' earnings, up to a statewide maximum. Eligibility and benefit levels vary by state, though most states offer up to 26 weeks of state-financed UI benefits through each state's Unemployment Compensation (UC) program. Certain economic conditions may extend the duration of UI benefits through the permanent Extended Benefit (EB) program.

AJCs coordinate a number of reemployment programs that provide job search assistance and training subsidies. These programs include both broadly available programs and targeted programs. Unlike UI benefits, which are mandatory entitlements, these employment and training programs are subject to funding caps. The primary AJC partner programs can be characterized as follows:

- *Programs available to all jobseekers* do not have eligibility requirements, though they may have limited capacity. These programs provide varied job search, training, and educational services. They include adult activities supported under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA; P.L. 113-128), which provide reemployment services and training vouchers; Employment Services (ES) under the Wagner-Peyser Act, which provide job search assistance and other non-training services to jobseekers; and adult education programs, which provide educational services at the secondary level and below.
- *Targeted programs* provide specialized services to certain populations. These services may be targeted by the circumstances of a worker's job loss or a worker's personal characteristics. Services provided through these programs can be more intensive or more readily available than those through programs with no eligibility requirements.

In addition to these primary programs, there are also several additional employment and training programs that are required AJC partners but are limited in scope and availability. The specific services offered by these additional programs vary, but tend to be targeted toward certain populations of jobseekers.

This report is limited to mandatory AJC partner programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. Some federally funded programs with employment and training components are not AJC partners. As such, the group of programs discussed in this report may vary from other reviews of federal workforce programs and should not be considered exhaustive.

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Background on the American Job Center Network

Many federally funded programs to assist unemployed workers are coordinated through state-run American Job Centers (AJCs; also known as One-Stop Career Centers).¹ There are approximately 2,500 AJCs nationwide. Programs available to jobseekers at AJCs include income support (typically unemployment insurance), as well as a variety of reemployment and training services. Services may be provided on-site at an AJC or by a partner entity at a different location.

The specific set of services and benefits available to a worker through the AJC system varies by the worker's characteristics and reason for unemployment. Some programs are only available to target populations (e.g., veterans or workers with disabilities), while others are available to all jobseekers. The availability of employment and training services can also be limited by an AJC's capacity and financial resources.

The AJC/One-Stop system was established by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA; P.L. 105-220). The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA; P.L. 113-128) amended and reauthorized many WIA programs and maintained the One-Stop/AJC system.

This report will provide a brief overview of the AJC mandatory partner programs. It begins with a discussion of unemployment insurance, a federal-state cooperative program that provides income support to unemployed workers. The subsequent sections discuss employment and training programs. These programs provide career counseling, job search assistance, occupational skills training, and other services to improve jobseekers' performance in the labor market.

This report aims to offer a brief overview of the programs administered through the AJC system. It emphasizes eligibility requirements and the scope of benefits and services available to individuals. It does not emphasize the roles and responsibilities of institutional actors such as state agency grantees and local workforce boards. Readers seeking additional information on the programs discussed are encouraged to consult the CRS products and other resources referenced in each program's description.

Note on the Programs Discussed

This report discusses mandatory partner programs in the AJC/One-Stop system as specified by Section 121 of the WIOA. Some federally funded programs with employment and training components are not required partners with AJCs and therefore are not discussed in this report. As such, the group of programs included in this report may vary from other reviews of federal employment training programs and should not be considered exhaustive.

¹ In June 2012, the Department of Labor announced an initiative to unify One-Stop Career Centers under the brand of the American Job Center network. More information on the implementation of the AJC network brand is available in Department of Labor Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 36-11 at http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL_36_11.Acc.pdf.

Unemployment Insurance²

Unemployment insurance (UI) provides a weekly cash payment to workers who involuntarily become unemployed after establishing a requisite work history. There are two programs currently authorized within the UI system:

- Unemployment Compensation (UC)
- Extended Benefits (EB)

Federal laws and regulations provide broad guidelines on UC benefit coverage, eligibility, and benefit determination. The specifics of regular UC benefits are determined by each state. This results in essentially 53 different programs.³

When eligible workers lose their jobs, the UC program may provide income support through the payment of UC benefits. Individuals who exhaust UC benefits may be eligible for additional weeks of UI benefits through the permanent EB program.

Until its expiration at the end of December 2013, the temporary Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) program also provided additional weeks of UI benefits.⁴ No benefits from the EUC08 program are currently available.

Table 1 provides data on recent outlays from the UC, EUC08, and EB programs.

² For additional background, see CRS Report RL33362, *Unemployment Insurance: Programs and Benefits*, by Julie M. Whittaker and Katelin P. Isaacs.

³ In limited circumstances, individuals who become unemployed due to a declared disaster and are not eligible for UC benefits in their state may be eligible for income support through the federal Disaster Unemployment Insurance (DUA) program. DUA is not a mandatory AJC partner. More information on DUA is available in CRS Report RS22022, *Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)*, by Julie M. Whittaker.

⁴ For additional details on the availability of EUC08 benefits prior to expiration, see CRS Report R42444, *Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08): Status of Benefits Prior to Expiration*, by Katelin P. Isaacs and Julie M. Whittaker.

Table I. Unemployment Insurance Expenditures by Program Component, FY2014

Program Component	Description	FY2014 Outlays
State-financed UI expenditures		
Unemployment Compensation (UC)	Provides weekly cash payment to eligible, unemployed workers.	\$35.9 billion
Federally financed UI expenditures		
Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) (now expired)	Until its expiration the week ending on or before January 1, 2014 (i.e., December 28, 2013; or December 29, 2013, in New York State), provided weekly cash payment to eligible, unemployed workers who had exhausted UC benefits. Availability and duration varied by state economic conditions.	\$4.8 billion
Extended Benefits (EB)	Provides weekly cash payment to eligible, unemployed workers who have exhausted UC and EUC08 benefits. Availability and duration varies by state economic conditions.	\$0.0 billion
UI Administrative Costs	Funds to states to administer UI benefits and programs.	\$4.4 billion

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, *UI Outlook, President's Budget FY2016*, February 2015 at http://www.workforcsecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/pdf/prez_budget.pdf.

Notes: UC, EUC08, and EB benefits are mandatory entitlements. Annual expenditures on these benefits vary by number of claimants and duration of benefits. The EUC08 program expired the week ending on or before January 1, 2014; no EUC08 benefits were payable after that date (i.e., December 28, 2013; or December 29, 2013, in New York State). No state met the conditions for EB benefits to be payable in FY2014. Under permanent law (P.L. 91-373), EB benefits are financed 50% by states and 50% by the federal government. P.L. 111-5, as amended, temporarily altered this federal-state funding arrangement through December 31, 2013, with the exception of "non-sharable" benefits (generally, these are former state and local employees' EB benefits). This temporary EB financing arrangement has now expired. Federal grants for UI administrative costs are appropriated.

Unemployment Compensation

The cornerstone of an unemployed worker's income security is the joint federal-state UC program,⁵ which provides income support through the payment of UC benefits. The UC program pays benefits to covered workers who become involuntarily unemployed for economic reasons and meet state-established eligibility rules. The UC program generally does not provide UC benefits to the self-employed, those who are unable to work, or those who do not have a recent earnings history. States usually disqualify claimants who lost their jobs because of inability to work, unavailability for work, or a labor dispute. Workers are also typically ineligible if they voluntarily quit without good cause, were discharged for job-related misconduct, or refused suitable work without good cause. To receive UC benefits, claimants must have enough recent earnings to meet their state's earnings requirements.

⁵ For more information on UC, see CRS Report RS22538, *Unemployment Compensation: The Cornerstone of Income Support for Unemployed Workers*, by Julie M. Whittaker, and CRS Report RL33362, *Unemployment Insurance: Programs and Benefits*, by Julie M. Whittaker and Katelin P. Isaacs.

UC is financed by federal taxes under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) and by state payroll taxes under the State Unemployment Tax Acts (SUTA). Maximum weekly benefit amounts in January 2015 ranged from \$133 (Puerto Rico) to \$698 (Massachusetts) and, in states that provide dependent's allowances, up to \$1,047 (Massachusetts). In February 2015, the average weekly benefit was \$316. In most states, regular UC benefits are available for up to 26 weeks.⁶

Extended Benefits

The EB program, established by P.L. 91-373 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note), may extend UC benefits at the state level if certain economic conditions exist within the state. The EB program is permanently authorized, and is triggered when a state's insured unemployment rate (IUR) or total unemployment rate (TUR) reaches certain levels. All states must pay up to 13 weeks of EB if the IUR for the previous 13 weeks is at least 5% and is 120% of the average of the rates for the same 13-week period in each of the two previous years. There are two other optional thresholds that states may choose. If the state has chosen a given option, they would provide the following:

- Option 1: an additional 13 weeks of benefits if the state's IUR is at least 6%, regardless of previous years' averages.
- Option 2: an additional 13 weeks of benefits if the state's TUR is at least 6.5% and is at least 110% of the state's average TUR for the same 13-week period in either of the previous two years; an additional 20 weeks of benefits if the TUR is at least 8%.⁷

In addition to all state requirements for regular UC eligibility, the EB program requires claimants to have at least 20 weeks of full-time insured employment or the equivalent in their base period, and to conduct a systematic and sustained work search.⁸ A current listing of states that have triggered on for EB can be found at http://www.workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp.

Under the 2009 stimulus package (P.L. 111-5), as amended, the federal government temporarily financed 100% of the EB program through December 31, 2013. This temporary EB financing

⁶ For information on states that have enacted reductions in UC maximum duration, see CRS Report R41859, *Unemployment Insurance: Consequences of Changes in State Unemployment Compensation Laws*, by Katelin P. Isaacs.

⁷ P.L. 111-312 made some temporary, technical changes to certain triggers in the EB program. P.L. 111-312, as amended, allows states to temporarily use lookback calculations based on three years of unemployment rate data (rather than the current lookback of two years of data) as part of their mandatory IUR and optional TUR triggers if states would otherwise trigger off or not be on a period of EB benefits. Using a two-year vs. a three-year EB trigger lookback is an important adjustment because some states are likely to trigger off of their EB periods in the near future despite high, sustained—but not increasing—unemployment rates.

States implement the lookback changes individually by amending their state UC laws. These state law changes must be written in such a way that if the two-year lookback is working and the state would have an active EB program, no action would be taken. But if a two-year lookback is not working as part of an EB trigger and the state is not triggered on to an EB period, then the state would be able to use a three-year lookback. This temporary option to use three-year EB trigger lookbacks expires the week on or before December 31, 2013.

⁸ The base period is the time period during which wages earned and/or hours/weeks worked are examined to determine a worker's monetary entitlement to UI. Almost all states use the first 4 of the last 5 completed calendar quarters preceding the filing of the claim as their base period.

provision has now expired. Under permanent law, the federal government finances 50% of the EB program and states finance the other 50%.

Employment and Training Programs

The AJC network co-locates and coordinates federally-funded employment and training programs. Services under these programs range from self-service (e.g., provision of computerized job listings) to more intensive case management and job training. Unlike UI, funding levels for employment and training programs are capped by statute or appropriation level. As such, it is possible that a jobseeker who is eligible for a program may not receive services.

This report divides the primary AJC partner programs into three groups:

- *Programs available to all jobseekers*, which have no eligibility criteria;
- *Programs targeted by circumstances of job loss*, which provide services to workers whose job loss and work history meet certain conditions; and
- *Programs targeted by jobseeker characteristics*, which provide services to workers based on their personal characteristics rather than their work history or reason for unemployment.

Table 2 summarizes the eligibility criteria for these primary partner programs, each of which is a formula grant program. In addition to these three groups of formula grant programs, there are also several additional programs that are required AJC partners but that are not available at all AJC locations. These additional programs are discussed in the final section of this report.

The remainder of this report discusses AJC mandatory partner programs, grouped by their eligibility criteria. Within each section, programs are discussed in descending order of their FY2015 funding level. **Table 3** at the end of this report provides brief descriptions of each AJC partner program as well as their FY2015 funding levels.

Table 2. Eligibility Criteria for Employment and Training Programs Available through the American Job Center Network

Programs Available to All Jobseekers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All jobseekers are eligible for job search assistance and training benefits under the Adult Activities provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and basic education and English literacy courses through the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA).• All recipients of unemployment insurance (UI) receive job matching and other employment services, funded under the Wagner-Peyser Act. Non-UI recipients may also receive these services.
Programs Targeted by Circumstance of Job Loss
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workers who were (1) involuntarily terminated, (2) well-attached to the labor force, and (3) unlikely to return to their previous occupation or industry are eligible for job search assistance and training benefits under the Dislocated Worker provisions of WIOA.• Workers whose job loss is attributable to foreign trade may be eligible for training and other benefits through the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.
Programs Targeted by Jobseeker Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals with disabilities may be eligible for customized services (including training) through state vocational rehabilitation programs.• Disadvantaged youth may be eligible for services under the Youth Activities provisions of WIOA or placement in the residential Job Corps program.• Individuals age 55 or over may be eligible for subsidized part-time employment through the Community Service Employment for Older Americans program.• Veterans are eligible for job search assistance and other services through programs funded by the Jobs for Veterans State Grants.

Source: CRS review of eligibility criteria for listed programs.

Notes: Due to funding constraints, not all eligible individuals may actually receive benefits and services under each program. Additional services through competitive grants and other programs may also be available through the AJC network.

Programs Available to All Jobseekers

The employment and training programs discussed in this section are funded by formula grants to states and do not have eligibility requirements. Funding levels are capped by annual appropriation levels. Job seekers may receive less intensive services or be placed on a waiting list due to limited resources.

Adult Employment and Training Activities

This WIOA-authorized formula grant program provides funds to states for employment and training services for both unemployed and underemployed individuals ages 18 and older. It is a universal access system with no additional eligibility requirements other than age.⁹ Funds are

⁹ The workforce development system designed by WIOA is premised on universal access, such that an adult age 18 or older does not need to meet any qualifying characteristics in order to receive core services. However, Section 134(c) of (continued...)

allotted by formula grants to states (which in turn allocate funds to local entities) to provide training and related services to unemployed or underemployed individuals.

Services include job search assistance, skill assessment, career planning, case management, and training (including occupational skills training and on-the-job training). Training is conducted through a voucher system that allows individuals to attend training at eligible training providers (e.g., community colleges).

Employment Services under the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933

The Wagner-Peyser Act established the Employment Service (ES) as a system jointly operated by DOL and the state employment security agencies. The central mission of the ES is to facilitate the match between individuals seeking employment and employers seeking workers. ES funds are allotted from DOL to the states through a formula grant. Typically, UI recipients must register with the ES. Jobseekers who are not eligible for UI may also register with the ES.

ES offers an array of services to job seekers and employers, including career counseling, job search workshops, labor market information, job listings, applicant screening, and referrals to job openings. States provide ES services through three tiers of service delivery: self-service, facilitated self-help, and staff-assisted. As the names of the tiers imply, progressively more active staff involvement is required as services range from internet job postings to career counseling.

Upon the establishment of the Unemployment Compensation (UC) program in 1935, ES offices also began to administer the UC “work test” requirements. These offices monitor UC claimants to ensure that they are able to work, available for work, and actively seeking work. For the recently unemployed, the ES processes UC income support claims while helping the individual find new employment.

Adult Education¹⁰

Education activities under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) are a mandatory AJC partner.¹¹ AEFLA provides formula grants to states to fund basic educational services at the high school level and below, as well as English language courses. States typically subgrant federal funds to local providers (such as school districts or community colleges) that provide the actual classes.

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WIOA stipulates that priority is to be given to recipients of public assistance and other low-income individuals. It is left to the discretion of the local Workforce Development Board, in consultation with the state’s governor, to determine how this prioritization is implemented.

¹⁰ For more information on Adult Education and AEFLA, see CRS Report R43789, *Adult Education and Family Literacy Act: Major Statutory Provisions*, by Benjamin Collins.

¹¹ AEFLA was created by Title II of WIA and reauthorized as Title II of WIOA. As such, adult education programs may also be referred to as “Title II” programs.

Programs Targeted by Circumstances of Job Loss

The programs discussed in this section are available to workers who are involuntarily separated from their jobs and meet other criteria. In some cases, workers who have been notified of a layoff but have not yet been separated from their jobs may also be eligible for these programs.

Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities

This program provides formula grants to states to provide services to dislocated workers. To qualify as a dislocated worker, an individual must have been laid off from employment, sufficiently attached to the workforce (e.g., eligible for unemployment benefits), and unlikely to return to the occupation or industry from which the worker was laid off. Services available under the Dislocated Worker program include job search assistance, skill assessment, career planning, case management, and training (including occupational skills training and on-the-job training).

Approximately 80% of Dislocated Worker funds are allotted by formula grants to states (which in turn allocate funds to local entities) to provide training and related services to qualified unemployed individuals. The remainder of the appropriation is reserved by DOL for National Dislocated Worker Grants, which, in part, provide funds to states or entities that are affected by major economic dislocations, such as plant closures or mass layoffs.

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program for Workers Adversely Affected by Foreign Trade¹²

Workers whose job loss is attributable to outsourcing or increased imports may be eligible for the TAA program. To be eligible for TAA benefits, a group of workers must petition DOL to certify that foreign trade “contributed importantly” to their job loss. Once a group is certified, individual workers may receive benefits through the AJC system. TAA provides reemployment services, training subsidies, and income support while in training. TAA-certified workers age 50 and over who pursue reemployment at a lower wage may participate in a wage insurance program.

Programs Targeted by Jobseeker Characteristics

The programs discussed in this section determine eligibility by workers’ personal characteristics. These eligibility requirements may or may not include economic characteristics such as individual or household income.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) for Workers with Disabilities¹³

State VR agencies provide employment-related services to individuals with disabilities. These agencies are funded by a combination of federal formula grants and state funds.¹⁴ To be eligible

¹² For more information on TAA, see CRS Report R42012, *Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers*, by Benjamin Collins.

¹³ The VR state grants program is administered by the Department of Education. For more information on the VR state grants program, see CRS Report R43855, *Rehabilitation Act: Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants*, by Benjamin Collins.

for VR services, an applicant must establish that (1) he or she has a physical or mental impairment that results in a barrier to employment and (2) that the applicant would benefit from VR services. VR services are customized to each client and may vary. Services include (but are not limited to) counseling, job search assistance, training, and support services in the workplace.

Job Corps¹⁵

This primarily residential job training program provides a range of services to low-income individuals between the ages of 16 and 24. The purpose of the Job Corps program is to provide disadvantaged youth with the skills needed to obtain and hold a job, enter the Armed Forces, or enroll in advanced training or higher education. In addition to receiving academic and employment training, youth also engage in social and other services to promote their overall well-being. Services include educational support, work-based learning, counseling, and other support services.

Currently, there are 125 Job Corps centers in 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.¹⁶

Youth Activities

This WIOA-authorized state formula grant program provides funding for training and related services to certain youth who are in school or out of school. A youth is eligible for services funded by this program if the individual is between the ages of 14 and 21 (or 24 for out-of-school youth) and meets other statutory criteria regarding income (primarily for in-school youth only) and/or barriers to employment.

Eligible participants in a program funded by these grants receive services that provide assistance in achieving academic and employment success through activities that improve educational and skill competencies and foster effective connections to employers. Such services include those involving educational achievement, employment services, linkages between educational achievement and employment, and additional support services.

Community Service Employment for Older Americans (CSEOA) Program¹⁷

CSEOA (Title V of the Older Americans Act) is a formula grant program, also known as the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), which provides funding to promote part-time employment opportunities for unemployed low-income individuals who are age 55 or older. In addition to the age and income requirements to participate, individuals must generally

(...continued)

¹⁴ States must match their federal VR grants so that the federal share of VR funding is no more than 78.7%.

¹⁵ For more information on youth programs, including Job Corps and WIA Youth, see CRS Report R40929, *Vulnerable Youth: Employment and Job Training Programs*, by Adrienne L. Fernandes-Alcantara.

¹⁶ Centers are in every state except New Hampshire and Wyoming. The DOL FY2016 budget justification states that centers in these two states are scheduled to open in program year 2015. See <http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2016/PDF/CBJ-2016-V1-05.pdf>.

¹⁷ For more information on CSEOA programs, see CRS Report RL33880, *Funding for the Older Americans Act and Other Aging Services Programs*, by Angela Napili and Kirsten J. Colello.

have limited prospects of securing unsubsidized employment. The CSEOA provides funding to states and national sponsor organizations for subsidized employment in a variety of community-service activities, such as working at community centers, libraries, or schools. Participants in the program may receive training, counseling, transportation, and placement assistance into unsubsidized employment.

Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) Program¹⁸

JVSG provides grants to states to fund state personnel positions that provide employment services to and on behalf of veterans. JVSG-funded personnel are divided into Disabled Veteran Outreach Program (DVOP) personnel and Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) personnel. DVOP personnel provide direct employment services to disabled and other high-need veterans. LVER personnel perform outreach to local employers, conduct employment workshops for veterans, and work with other AJC personnel to provide employment-related services to veterans.

JVSG does not provide funding for training, though DVOP and LVER personnel may refer veteran jobseekers to programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs that provide funding for education and training. Veterans also receive priority of service in all DOL-administered employment and training programs for which they qualify.¹⁹

Other AJC Partner Programs

In addition to the formula grant programs discussed in prior sections, WIOA also identifies several competitive grants and other programs as mandatory AJC partners. These programs differ from the formula grants discussed previously either because they are not widely available (in the case of competitive grants) or because they provide support to educational or community entities rather than directly to individuals (in the case of the programs discussed under the "Other Mandatory Partner Programs" heading).

YouthBuild Program²⁰

Authorized by Section 171 of WIOA, this competitive grant program funds projects that provide education and construction skills training for disadvantaged youth. Participating youth gain work experience, job training, education (a GED or preparation for secondary education), and leadership development by working to rehabilitate and construct housing for homeless and low-income families.

¹⁸ JVSG and other employment-related programs for veterans are discussed in CRS Report R42790, *Employment for Veterans: Trends and Programs*, coordinated by Benjamin Collins.

¹⁹ Priority of service for veterans was established by the Jobs for Veterans Act (P.L. 107-288). The priority of service provisions are in statute at 38 U.S.C. 4215 and clarified in regulations at 20 C.F.R. 1010.

²⁰ At the time of the enactment of WIA, YouthBuild was administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program was moved to DOL and authorization was added to WIA in 2007 by the YouthBuild Transfer Act (P.L. 109-281).

Native American Program

Authorized by Section 166 of WIOA, this competitive grant program provides training and related services to low-income Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through grants to Indian tribes and reservations and other Native American groups.

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Programs

Authorized by Section 167 of WIOA, this competitive grant program provides training and related services, including technical assistance, to disadvantaged migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents through discretionary grants awarded to public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

Other Mandatory Partner Programs

Community Services Block Grants (CSBGs) provide federal funds to states, territories, and tribes for distribution to local agencies to support a wide range of community-based activities to reduce poverty.²¹ WIOA specifies that employment and training activities carried out with CSBG funds must partner with AJCs. CSBG is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Perkins Act provides funds to states to support vocational and technical career programs at secondary and postsecondary institutions. Postsecondary activities supported under this act are a mandatory AJC partner.²² All Perkins programs are administered by the Department of Education.

²¹ For more information on CSBG, see CRS Report RL32872, *Community Services Block Grants (CSBG): Background and Funding*, by Karen Spar.

²² For more information on programs authorized by the Perkins Act, see CRS Report R42863, *Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006: Background and Performance*, by Cassandra Dortch.

Table 3. Employment and Training Programs Available to Unemployed Workers Through the American Job Center Network

Program	Description	FY2015 Funding (in millions)
Employment and Training Programs Available to All Jobseekers		
Adult Employment and Training Activities	Provides job search assistance and training (including occupational skills training and on-the-job training). Training is conducted through a voucher system that allows individuals to attend training at eligible training providers.	\$777
Employment Services under the Wagner-Peyser Act	Provides non-training services to job seekers and employers, including career counseling, job search workshops, labor market information, job listings, applicant screening, and referrals to job openings.	\$664 ^a
Basic Education under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act	Provides educational services at the secondary level and below as well as English language training.	\$583
Programs Targeted by Circumstances of Job Loss		
Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities	Provides employment services and training subsidies to workers who have involuntarily lost their jobs and demonstrated a specified level of labor force attachment.	\$1,236 ^b
Trade Adjustment Assistance Reemployment Services	Provides reemployment services, training services, and other benefits to workers whose job loss was attributable to international trade.	\$659 ^c
Programs Targeted by Jobseekers Characteristics		
Vocational Rehabilitation	Provides customized counseling, training benefits, and other employment-related services to individuals with disabilities.	\$3,091 ^d
Job Corps	Through primarily residential programs, provides disadvantaged youth with the skills needed to obtain and hold a job, enter the Armed Forces, or enroll in advanced training or higher education.	\$1,688
Youth Activities	Provides funding for training and related services to certain youth who are in school or out of school. A youth is eligible for services funded by this program if the individual is between the ages of 14 and 21 (or 24 for out-of-school youth) and meets other statutory criteria.	\$832
Community Service Employment for Older Americans (Title V of Older Americans Act)	Provides funding for subsidized employment in a variety of community-service jobs. To be eligible, a participant must be unemployed, age 55 or over, and demonstrate limited potential to enter unsubsidized employment.	\$434

Program	Description	FY2015 Funding (in millions)
Jobs for Veterans State Grants	Provides state personnel positions that provide employment-related services to veterans and outreach to local employers.	\$175
Competitive Grants and Other Programs		
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Program	Provides training and related services to disadvantaged migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents.	\$82
YouthBuild	Provides education and construction skills training for disadvantaged youth by rehabilitating and constructing housing for homeless and low-income families.	\$80
Native American Programs	Provides training and related services to low-income Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.	\$46

Source: Department of Labor FY2015 operating plan at http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm and Department of Education FY2015 Congressional Action Budget Summary at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget15/15action.pdf>.

Note: Partner programs that do not primarily provide employment and training services to individuals are excluded from this table.

- a. Funding level is limited to funding for grants to states.
- b. Includes National Dislocated Worker Grants set-aside.
- c. Funding level reflects FY2015 funding for all TAA for workers activities. TAA is mandatory spending and may be subject to sequestration. Funding level in the table is post-sequestration funding for FY2015. Original appropriation was \$710 million.
- d. VR state grants are mandatory spending and may be subject to sequestration. Funding level in the table is post-sequestration funding for FY2015. Original appropriation was \$3.3 billion.

Author Contact Information

Benjamin Collins
Analyst in Labor Policy
bcollins@crs.loc.gov, 7-7382

David H. Bradley
Specialist in Labor Economics
dbradley@crs.loc.gov, 7-7352

Katelin P. Isaacs
Analyst in Income Security
kisaacs@crs.loc.gov, 7-7355