



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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STATE AWARDED GRANT TO ASSIST LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

TRAINING FUNDS AVAILABLE TO INCREASE OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS

HONOLULU—The Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) today announced that the state has been awarded a \$1,769,095 National Emergency Grant (NEG) to expand the service capacity of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Dislocated Worker training and employment program. The funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) will provide training designed to lead to new career opportunities to persons eligible for the program by assisting them in acquiring industry-recognized credentials.

The grant is part of the U.S. DOL's effort to assist the long-term unemployed, defined as those workers who have been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, with an emphasis on those workers facing the termination of their unemployment benefits. Funding will support On-the-Job Training, customized training, registered apprenticeship programs and other training activities that connect individuals with employers.

Employers and long-term unemployed workers are encouraged to contact their local One-Stop Center for more information. One-Stop information is available via the web at

<http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdd/onestop/>.

WIA Dislocated Worker Program

The Dislocated Worker Program helps those who have been laid-off by providing a series of intensive career counseling and preparation services designed to facilitate reentry into the job market. If job seekers are not able to find employment, they can also access other programs that provide on-the-job training as well as upgrade their existing skills. Job seekers can apply for WIA programs and services as a dislocated worker if they qualify under one of the four following descriptions:

- Has been terminated or laid off, is eligible for or has exhausted unemployment insurance benefits, and is unlikely to return to the same job or industry
- Laid off or received notification from your employer
- Formerly self-employed, but now unemployed due to deteriorating economic conditions in the community or due to natural disaster
- Individual was a homemaker providing unpaid services to and relying on another family member for income and is no longer supported by that income and is unemployed or underemployed or experiencing difficulties obtaining employment

One-Stop Centers

The 11 One-Stop Centers located throughout the state are dedicated to providing free services to job seekers and employers, including job search assistance, personal career planning services, training opportunities, HireNet Hawaii support, and a library resource center.

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