

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210	CLASSIFICATION WIOA National Reserve
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TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
STATE WORKFORCE ADMINISTRATORS
STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARDS AND CHAIRS
STATE LABOR COMMISSIONERS
WIA SECTION 166 INDIAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM
GRANTEES

FROM: PORTIA WU 
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Updated Information on POWER Initiative National Dislocated Worker Grants

1. **Purpose.** To announce the continued availability of up to \$31 million (remaining of an initial \$38 million set-aside) in National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) from funds available in Program Years (PY) 2016 and 2017 as part of the Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative, and to increase the maximum award amount to \$5 million from the previously-announced \$2 million, to support the planning and implementation of workforce strategies for regions and communities that are negatively impacted by changes in the coal economy.

2. **References.**

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), sec. 170, Pub. L. No. 113-128, (July 22, 2014)
- WIOA Regulations at 20 CFR part 682 and 687
- Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 2-15 “Operational Guidance for National Dislocated Worker Grants, pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA or Opportunity Act)” dated July 1, 2015
- TEGL 3-15 “Guidance on Services Provided through the Adult and Dislocated Worker Program under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA or Opportunity Act) and Wagner-Peyser, as Amended by WIOA, and Guidance for the Transition to WIOA Services” dated July 1, 2015

RESCISSIONS TEGL 32-14	EXPIRATION DATE Continuing
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- TEGL 2-16, “*Revised ETA-9130 Financial Report, Instructions, and Additional Guidance*,” dated July 14, 2016
- TEGL 10-09, “Implementing Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses in all Qualified Job Training Programs Funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL),” dated November 10, 2009
- Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 8-16, “Implementation of an Integrated Performance Reporting System for Multiple Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (VETS) Administered Programs,” dated August 24, 2016
- ETA Form 9130 (OMB Control No. 1205-0461)
- 2 CFR Part 180
- 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Rule
- Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Development (POWER) Initiative 2016 information, available at www.eda.gov/power

3. **Background.** The POWER Initiative is an ongoing, multi-agency effort to assist communities negatively impacted by changes in the coal industry and power sector. By aligning and leveraging resources, the POWER Initiative reaches across economic development and workforce development systems to support regional and local solutions for long-term economic vitality.

A primary goal of the POWER Initiative is to support economic diversification for communities negatively impacted by downturns in the coal economy. The POWER Initiative enables impacted communities to develop a planning and/or implementation process to strengthen economic development strategies and build local and regional workforce strategies, and to promote new job creation opportunities.

Communities eligible for POWER Initiative grants are those that have been impacted, or can reasonably demonstrate that they will be impacted, by coal mining and coal power plant employment loss including layoffs in the manufacturing or transportation logistics supply chains of either. Instead of pre-defining geographies that are eligible, the Department welcomes any application that can demonstrate that there is economic distress or negative impact resulting from coal economy contractions (e.g., mine closures, power plant closures, etc.). A description of the community’s reliance on the coal economy and the related contractions will be expected in the project narrative of each individual funding application (see Section 6 below under Eligible Applicants).

In addition to the DWG funds available through the Employment & Training Administration (ETA), communities may be eligible for POWER Initiative funds through the US Economic Development Administration or the Appalachian Regional Commission. These agencies announced new funding opportunities earlier in 2016. POWER DWG applicants are encouraged to align with and leverage POWER resources from these agencies, as well as other resources, to maximize effectiveness.

This TEGL describes the specifics of the ETA-funded POWER DWGs only. For more information on the broader POWER Initiative, visit www.eda.gov/power.

- 4. POWER National Dislocated Worker Grants.** ETA's investments in the POWER Initiative are funded through a special DWG offering, called POWER DWGs. These grants support workforce development activities that prepare dislocated workers for good jobs in high-demand occupations aligned with a regional or community economic development strategy.

DWGs are discretionary grants awarded by the Secretary of Labor under section 170 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide employment-related services for dislocated workers. DWGs provide resources to states and other eligible applicants to respond to layoff events causing significant job losses. This funding temporarily expands the capacity of states or local workforce areas to serve dislocated workers and meet the increased demand for employment and training services, with the goal of quickly reemploying laid-off workers and enhancing their employability and earnings.

To support an American economy that provides opportunity for all, workers must have skills that align with the needs of businesses and must be readily able to adapt as business needs evolve. POWER grantees will support a job-driven approach by ensuring that local and regional economic and workforce development plans are aligned and coordinated, and will address the specific needs of businesses and workers in the community. The projects proposed under this POWER DWG offering should be strategic, regional, industry-focused approaches to workforce and economic development that improve access to good jobs and help communities and workers plan for and recover from transitions in the coal economy.

To achieve the goal of economic diversification, POWER DWGs should align with local and regional strategic planning efforts that connect economic development, workforce development, and a wide range of other regional and community stakeholders and businesses. Effective planning and partnerships across targeted, growing and in-demand industries will help ensure that coal-reliant communities are able to grow and diversify their economies in careful and thoughtful ways and help ensure that they are able to foster and maintain viable businesses. Workforce training aligned with this planning, including those funded through the POWER DWG, will help ensure that skilled workers are available for new and existing jobs in the course of this transition.

ETA will accept applications for POWER DWGs through the end of PY 2017. This TEGL provides instructions for eligible applicants to apply for these funds, and information on how the funds can be used upon receipt of a grant award.

- 5. Eligibility and Qualifying Events**

Community Eligibility and Qualifying Events

Communities eligible for POWER DWG funds are those that have been impacted, or can reasonably demonstrate that they will be impacted by a public announcement or individual notifications of permanent or temporary layoff, by coal mining or coal power plant

employment loss including layoffs in the manufacturing or transportation logistics supply chains of either. The Department will review applications and select those that demonstrate the degree of economic distress/impact resulting from coal economy contractions (e.g. mine closures, power plant closures, etc.).

Applicants must identify one or more qualifying events that enable them to receive DWG funds. There are two methods by which the qualifying event(s) threshold may be met:

1. Identification of one or more qualifying layoffs that occur in regions or communities. Qualifying layoffs are those in which **at least 50 total job losses** can be directly or indirectly attributed to downturns in the coal economy—including but not limited to mining, transport, and power generation—that have occurred no more than **18 months** before the application date within the identified project area. *Applications based upon qualifying layoffs occurring more than 18 months before the application date must include a substantial justification of how these layoffs are still affecting the community or region.*

The 50 total job losses may come from a single layoff or from a series of eligible layoffs across the geographic area to be covered by the grant.

2. In rare cases, there may be regions or communities that wish to apply for POWER DWG funds but cannot demonstrate 50 total job losses during an 18-month period due to the small, rural nature of the region. For these communities, ETA may accept an application that can show job losses that have had or continue to have a substantial impact on the unemployment rate of the region.

In addition to demonstrating the broad impacts of downturns in the coal economy on the local or regional economy, applicants must identify the area that will be covered by the project; see Section 6 below for more information.

Eligible Participants

POWER DWG grant participants must be dislocated workers, who live or were dislocated from employment within the area covered by the application, and who are directly impacted by layoffs from coal mines or coal-fired power plants, or layoffs from the manufacturing or transportation logistics chains of either. Any of these eligible dislocated workers who live or work within the region or community identified in the grant application may be served through this grant. Following the initial grant award, recipients may add new employers to the project via a grant modification.

As in other ETA-funded programs, veterans must receive Priority of Service for training and services made available under POWER DWGs, as required by the Jobs for Veterans Act and described in TEGL 10-09.

Eligible Applicants

Applicants eligible to apply for POWER DWGs are:

- State agencies responsible for administering WIOA title I activities, including those in outlying areas, within which is an impacted community or region as well as entities eligible to receive funding under section 166 (Indian and Native American Program grantees) of WIOA.
- Where applicable, states may apply as a consortium to address coal-impacted regions that cross state boundaries.

These identified applicants allow ETA to most efficiently and effectively manage the application process and grant funds, ensure consistency of applications, and coordinate with state partners. State agency applicants must include the relevant local workforce development board(s) in the impacted regions or communities in their applications as partners.

6. **Application Procedures and Requirements.** Submit applications for POWER DWGs via the DWG Electronic Application System (eSystem). We will accept applications on an ongoing basis through the end of Program Year 2017, or until cancelled or funds are no longer available. DWGs are listed in the Catalog for Federal Financial Assistance under 17.277 and are funded by ETA. This TEGL serves as the announcement for the POWER DWG funding opportunity. The application, generated by the eSystem, will contain:
- An SF-424 (OMB No. 4040-0004)
 - An SF-424A (OMB No. 4040-0006)
 - A Budget Information Narrative, used to explain the line items of the SF-424A
 - A Project Synopsis – Form 9106 (OMB No. 1205-0439)
 - A Planning Form – Form 9103 (OMB No. 1205-0439), with projected enrollment and expenditure information.
 - A project narrative that addresses the items listed below under POWER DWG Project Narrative Requirements (OMB No. 1205-0439), and includes the activities contained in the “Use of Funds” portion of this section.
 - ETA anticipates that an application will be approximately 10 pages in length (double spaced).

NOTE: Work-based learning activities should be included in the grant application under the “OJT” fields.

The grant award package may include additional terms and conditions that will apply to the project that are not listed here, including information on grant modifications, enrolling of additional participants, and completing employer data records during the course of the grant project.

POWER DWG Project Narrative Requirements

The project narrative must provide an overview of the applicant’s project goals, expected impacts and funding request and a description of how funding from ETA and any other POWER partner agencies, or other leveraged funding, would assist the applicant in reaching its desired impact.

This project narrative must include, but is not limited to, the following information.

a) *A description of the area to be covered by the grant, the qualifying layoff(s), and its/their impact on the community.*

The description must include discussion of the community's reliance on the coal economy and the related contractions in the project narrative for each application. This description may include information such as shrinking coal-related employment, announced job cuts or company closures, decreased economic activity related to the coal economy, and other information that the applicant has determined will provide evidence of the impact of coal-related economic transition on their economy. The description must also include:

- Any layoff events, announced future layoffs, economic impacts from coal economy contractions or down-sizing of the workforce, and descriptions of how the community has been impacted, or will be impacted, by coal economy employment losses. Economic indicators, labor market analyses, public announcements, demographic, and industry data are strong sources of data to demonstrate these impacts.
- Rapid Response activities which have been or will be conducted, including demographic data gathered by company and/or worker surveys or through other methods.
- Any relevant data or information on the region, economy, workforce, etc., to support the application.

Please note that regions are geographic and economic areas that are capable of undertaking self-sustained economic development.

b) *A clear project summary, including a description of the integration of economic and workforce development activities.*

This section of the application narrative should focus on describing the activities that the applicant intends to carry out with grant funds. This section should include:

- A discussion of the overall project and specific discussion of economic and workforce development activities.
- A discussion of how the economic and workforce development activities described are going to be integrated in a complementary manner.
- A discussion of how any existing federal funding would be leveraged, and how any existing federal, state, local, and/or private resources/capacity would be leveraged.
- Proposed development of sector strategies or other innovative approaches and partnerships to promote transition of coal workers into high-demand, family-supporting jobs.

c) *A description of connectedness with existing planning efforts and/or proposed strategic planning component.*

An eligible region or community interested in applying for a POWER DWG must demonstrate how the proposed workforce project is or will be integrated with an existing Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), or other relevant strategic

economic development plan that exists or may be developed in coordination with the POWER DWG project. POWER DWG applications should describe the alignment between the proposed POWER DWG activities and the overarching regional or community economic development strategy.

Where applicable, an application should include a demonstration of how the proposed project is implementing an existing strategic or economic development planning effort. Such demonstration may include reference to CEDS's that address economic diversification needs, or other equivalent regional economic development plans, or regional and/or state-wide strategies for addressing workforce needs (such as WIOA State or local strategic plans), or multi-state efforts, that are compatible with and aligned to applicable economic development plans. For POWER DWGs, applicants must describe the coordination with or development of strategic plans as follows:

- If one or more plans exist within the region, include any referenced plan as part of the application and describe how it will align with the proposed DWG project; or,
- If a plan exists but requires additional work to ensure alignment with the proposed DWG project, describe the additional planning that will be undertaken with the DWG and include a copy of the plan(s) in the application; or,
- If no current plan exists, describe how the strategic planning portion of the proposed DWG project will develop a comprehensive plan for the region or community.
- A description of the region's economic diversification goals and how the project will help bring about this diversification within the region.

NOTE: Attach any existing plans or strategy documents to the POWER DWG application.

d) A description of any partners included in the grant proposal.

Applicants must include a description of any partners supporting the application, along with information about the role they will play in the proposed project; examples of project partners include local workforce development boards, economic development organizations, educational or training institutions including Registered Apprenticeship programs, community leaders, community-based organizations, or other stakeholders.

7. **Application Review and Award.** Applications for POWER DWGs will be accepted on a rolling basis. All applications received while funds remain available for the POWER Initiative, or before its cancellation, will be given an initial review for completeness by the ETA Grant Officer before program review to assess the technical merit and responsiveness of each application. This program review will carefully evaluate the applications against the criteria outlined in this TEGL to determine the merits of each application. These criteria are based on the policy goals, priorities, and emphases set forth in this TEGL. The program review will advise the Grant Officer regarding whether to make a selection for funding; the results of the review are advisory in nature and not binding on the Grant Officer. The Grant Officer reserves the right to take into consideration other relevant factors when applicable. Such factors may include the geographic distribution of funds and/or other relevant factors. The Grant Officer may also consider any information that comes to his/her attention.

ETA may elect to award a grant with or without discussions with the applicant. Should a grant be awarded without discussions, the award will be based on the applicant's signature on the SF-424, including electronic signature, which constitutes a binding offer by the applicant.

NOTE: The Department will determine if the applicant had any restriction on spending for any ETA grant due to adverse monitoring findings within the past three years. Depending on the severity of the findings, the Grant Officer may elect to not provide the applicant a grant award.

All applications deemed to be complete and responsive by the Grant Officer will then go through a risk review process. Prior to making an award, ETA will review information available through any Office of Management and Budget (OMB)-designated repository of government-wide eligibility qualification or federal integrity information, such as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity System (FAPIIS), Dun and Bradstreet, and "Do Not Pay." Additionally, ETA will comply with the requirements of 2 CFR part 180 (Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-Procurement)). This risk evaluation may incorporate results of the evaluation of the applicant's eligibility (application screening), or the quality of its application (technical review). If ETA determines that an entity is responsible and an award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the award. Risk-related criteria to be evaluated include:

- (1) Financial stability;
- (2) Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in the Uniform Grant Guidance;
- (3) History of performance. The Applicant's record in managing awards, cooperative agreements, or procurement awards, if it is a prior recipient of such Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, and if available, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
- (4) Reports and findings from audits performed under Sub-part F – Audit Requirements of the Uniform Grant Guidance or the reports and findings of any other available audits and monitoring reports containing finds, issues of non-compliance, or questioned costs;
- (5) The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on recipients.

Selection of an organization as a recipient does not constitute approval of the grant application as submitted. Before the actual grant is awarded, the Department may enter into negotiations about such items as program components, staffing and funding levels, and administrative systems in place to support grant implementation. If the negotiations do not result in a mutually acceptable submission, the Grant Officer reserves the right to terminate the negotiations and decline to fund the application. The Department reserves the right to not fund any application related to this TEG.

ETA's technical review will also include a consideration of the following factors:

1. Economic Impact
 - The strength of the nexus between the proposed project and the economic impacts of contractions in the coal economy; and,
 - The relative economic distress of the region.
2. Relative Strength of Economic and Workforce Development Integration
 - The demonstrated coordination between the project's economic development investment and workforce development efforts; and,
 - The extent to which the project will enable the community/region to become more diversified and more economically prosperous and will enable dislocated workers served by the project regain family supporting jobs and careers.
3. Relative Strength of Connectedness with Existing Plans and Strategies
 - The connectedness of the project with an existing CEDS or equivalent economic development and/or workforce development strategies.
4. Relative Viability of Project
 - The ability of the proposed project to realistically achieve the desired results and catalyze additional resources;
 - The ability of a project to start quickly, create jobs, and assist workers; and,
 - The financial or management capability of the applicant.

NOTE: Any region or community that has an existing DWG or National Emergency Grant to respond to coal industry layoffs should coordinate the grant activities with any POWER-related economic development planning activities. Any new application for POWER DWG funds from an area that has an existing grant for coal industry layoffs must describe the coordination of the activities of the POWER DWG and the existing grant as part of the project narrative.

8. **Use of Funds.** POWER DWGs should provide services that are aligned with, and designed to support the goals of, the region's economic development strategy, as well as the applicable WIOA Strategic Plan(s) for the area. Applicants should consider providing those services that will best ensure participants have the skills and competencies necessary to compete for jobs in emerging or targeted industry sectors as identified by planning process. The types of activities and services that may be provided are listed below; other potential activities and services may be allowed based on consultation with ETA.

Strategic Planning

One priority of the POWER DWGs is to align workforce planning with economic planning to ensure states and regions are implementing industry-focused approaches to workforce and economic development. Regional planning and strategies support dislocated workers by assessing the regional economic landscape to identify new or growing employment opportunities in the region. They also help ensure partnerships and regional assets from the workforce investment system, industry, community colleges, labor unions, nonprofits and other stakeholders are aligned and integrated under strategies that can be used to respond to economic shocks, such as plant downsizing or closing. These activities may support the development of new strategies or updates and expansion of preexisting plans and strategies.

Power DWG partnerships are authorized to use a portion of funds for planning purposes, with a focus on finalizing and linking workforce development strategies with CEDS or other relevant economic development plans. Allowable uses of POWER DWG funds for planning include, but are not limited to:

- Partnership and program development with stakeholders, employers, Registered Apprenticeship, etc, including convening regional partners, employers, or other stakeholders;
- Acquisition, analysis and utilization of workforce information to identify regional trends, including but not limited to labor market information and other state or private data;
- Asset mapping and other analysis, such as Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis;
- Developing regional plans;
- Coordinating with state or local Rapid Response units to develop early layoff warning systems or other comprehensive layoff aversion strategies to prevent or minimize the duration of unemployment for workers in the coal-affected areas that are or may be at risk of layoff;
- Outreach for impacted workers in impacted sectors to encourage participation in the POWER DWG or in other workforce programs;
- Training for staff in State and local areas necessary to facilitate regional planning and implement regional strategies;
- Establishing social and/or peer learning networks among regions using sector strategies;
- Identifying and mapping the necessary skills and competencies for in-demand jobs, and assessing how well those skills and competencies are reflected in existing training programs and curricula; or,
- Identifying aligned industry credentials for those skills and competencies needed.

Up to 25 percent of the proposed grant amount, but not more than \$500,000, may be used for planning purposes.

Program Services

Career Services to Dislocated Workers

Career services provide dislocated workers with the range of services, training, and job placement assistance they need to fill jobs in identified emerging or other high demand sectors. Some participants may require re-employment services such as career coaching and assistance in adapting their skills and experience to new industries, while others may benefit from short-term and even longer-term training to obtain good jobs. These workers may require targeted and customized employment assistance and counseling, training, and other specialized service interventions to succeed in the labor market as rapidly as possible.

Applicants must describe the types of career services, consistent with WIOA and applicable state and local policies, they will undertake in their proposal which may include:

- Short-term prevocational services, including:
 - Career exploration skills

- Development of learning skills
- Communication skills
- Interviewing skills
- Punctuality
- Personal maintenance skills
- Professional conduct skills
- Internships or work experiences that are linked to careers;
- English-language acquisition programs in coordination with other activities, as appropriate for individuals to obtain unsubsidized employment;
- Comprehensive and specialized assessments of the skill levels and service needs of dislocated workers, which may include –
 - Diagnostic testing and use of other assessment tools; and
 - In-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and development of individual employment plans;
- Career planning (that includes a career pathway approach), job coaching and job matching services;
- Identification of appropriate training programs;
- Job development and placement; and,
- Providing referrals to, and coordination with, other programs and services.

Training and Work-Based Training Models

Applicants must discuss the types of career, training or work-based training to be undertaken under the POWER DWG project— and include a description of how these strategies will help meet the goals identified by the economic development planning process. Allowable training and work-based training strategies include:

- Traditional classroom training funded through Individual Training Accounts (ITAs)
- Development and provision of On-the-Job Training projects;
- Pre-apprenticeship training for dislocated workers with linkages to Registered Apprenticeships;
- Referrals and support in placing participants into Registered Apprenticeship programs, including development of policies for use of ITAs and supportive services to support participation in these programs;
- Development of customized/cohort-based training to meet the needs of employers;
- Development and provision of work support activities for workers with barriers to employment while in training, including low-wage workers and workers with disabilities, such as supportive services, activities during non-traditional hours, assistive technology, benefits planning, and the inclusion of onsite child care while participating in these activities;
- Updating of curricula and training faculty in existing programs to be better aligned with industry needs; and,
- Development and provision of competency-based training strategies that result in stackable and/or latticed credentials that are industry recognized.

Selected work-based training models must comply with the following requirements:

- OJT opportunities and customized training must be provided under a contract with an employer in the private-nonprofit or for-profit sector:
 - Credential attainment is **not** required to be a part of OJT, and participants in OJT OJT are excluded from the Credential Attainment performance indicator. However, grant recipients are strongly encouraged to prioritize OJT opportunities to include a formal training component that leads to a credential.
 - The parameters associated with OJT in ETA's current OJT guidance, TEGLs 4-10 and 16-12, apply to any OJT opportunities offered under the POWER DWG, notwithstanding the definition of prolonged unemployed contained in these guidance documents and the OJT reimbursement rate allowed in TEGL 4-10.
 - The application should identify the employer reimbursement rate for OJT. Generally it is 50 percent of a participant's wage rate, however, the Governor or local board in the area may have increased it to 75 percent based on certain factors, consistent with WIOA sec. 134(c)(3)(H). Applicants should use the reimbursement rate consistent with the rate used for the area's WIOA dislocated worker program.

For non-work-based training, project operators must limit the training opportunities provided to training providers listed in their Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), although project operators may issue training contracts as provided in section 134(c)(3)(G) of WIOA, as proposed training programs must have demonstrated success in serving the targeted population. Additionally, project operators should give preference to competency-based education and training that results in stackable, industry-recognized credentials.

NOTE: The purpose of the POWER DWG is to provide support for dislocated workers who are currently unemployed. Grantees may become aware of companies directly or indirectly affected by coal economy closures or downsizings that have not yet announced layoffs or where workers remain at risk of layoff. In such circumstances, POWER grantees are encouraged to coordinate or partner with state or local Rapid Response teams to conduct layoff aversion efforts. POWER DWG funds may not be used to provide services for workers who are not eligible dislocated workers, but Rapid Response funds may be used for this purpose. There are many possible strategies and activities that might be applicable; applicants are encouraged to review the list included in the WIOA Regulations at Section 682.320; while not exhaustive, this list may help inform potential activities to be included.

Close coordination with the state or local Rapid Response unit is critical in ensuring timely, successful layoff aversion strategies and activities, and POWER grantees are encouraged to maintain such partnerships throughout the life of the POWER grant.

Supportive Services

Supportive Services are also authorized for participants in POWER DWG projects; allowable supportive services include, but are not limited to:

- Assistance with transportation;
- Assistance with child care and dependent care;
- Linkages to community services;
- Assistance with Housing;
- Needs-Related Payments (available only to individuals enrolled in training services and is consistent with 680.930, 680.940, 680.950, 680.960, and 680.970)
- Assistance with educational testing;
- Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities;
- Referrals to health care;
- Assistance with uniforms or other appropriate work attire and work-related tools, including such items as eye glasses and protective eye gear;
- Assistance with books, fees, school supplies, and other necessary items for students enrolled in post-secondary education classes;
- Payments and fees for employment and training-related applications, tests, and certifications; and
- Legal aid services.

9. **Application Period.** POWER DWG applications will be accepted through the end of PY 2017, or until the funds reserved for this initiative have been expended, whichever is sooner.

10. **Awards.** POWER DWG awards will range from \$500,000 to \$5 million, depending on the needs identified in the application, the number of participants to be served, and the amount of funds that remain available for award. Supplemental funding may be awarded upon the expenditure of the initial funding, based upon demonstrated need, project performance to date, and the availability of funds.

NOTE: Current POWER DWG grantees who received their awards prior to ETA raising the grant limit to \$5 million and who are in need of additional funding may submit a modification through the DWG E-Application system. Additional funding will be contingent upon the grantee demonstrating a clear need for these resources.

Based upon the specific information included in the application, amount of funds remaining available, or other factors, ETA may make awards for less than the amount requested by the applicant.

11. **Funds Availability.** Awarded funds will be available for expenditure from the date of award for a period that includes the remainder of the PY of award plus two additional PYs. However, the Department reserves the right to provide period of performance extensions beyond this date, as it deems appropriate and necessary, to achieve the purpose of the POWER Initiative.

12. **Performance and Fiscal Reporting.** To ensure ETA is able to assess the success of POWER DWG projects, the collection of accurate, quality data is a critical component of financial and performance accountability. To satisfy statutory and regulatory recordkeeping and reporting requirements, states and other entities must report characteristics, services received, and outcomes of participants served with WIOA funds, including POWER DWGs.

Such information is necessary to determine the success of these investments. The following performance and fiscal reports are required:

Quarterly WIOA Performance Report

On July 1, 2016, the performance accountability provision authorized by WIOA became operational. Section 116 of WIOA describes performance accountability indicators. The WIOA performance indicators apply to POWER DWGs awarded with a grant effective date of July 1, 2016 or later.

The DOL-only Performance Accountability, Information, and Reporting System contains the data elements, definitions, and reporting requirements pertaining to DWGs, including POWER DWGs. This layout may be found on ETA's performance website, under "Reporting": https://doleta.gov/performance/pfdocs/ETA-9172_DOL%20PIRL_FINAL_V25_062816.pdf.

Training and Employment Notice 8-16, "*Implementation of an Integrated Performance Reporting System for Multiple Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) Administered Programs*," provides additional information on performance reporting requirements.

Quarterly Progress Reports

Grantees must submit a Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) (ETA 9104). The QPR provides an aggregate count of activities undertaken that quarter, and serves as a regular communication vehicle between the grantees and ETA regarding the progress of the project towards meeting the specific results and deliverables outlined in the grant application. POWER DWG grantees should include a summary of strategic planning activities, funded in whole or in part by the POWER DWG, in the QPR comments section.

Quarterly Fiscal Reports

All DWG grantees will submit financial reports using the DWG ETA-9130 Financial Report. Guidance and instructions can be found in TEGL 2-16, "*Revised ETA-9130 Financial Report, Instructions, and Additional Guidance*," at the following link: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL_2-16_acc.pdf.

- 13. Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Statement.** According to the PRA, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB Control Number. The Department notes that a Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information, nor is the public required to respond to a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number (44 U.S.C. 3507). Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB Control Number (44 U.S.C. 3512). The currently valid OMB Control Number for this collection is OMB 1205-0439.

14. **Inquiries.** Questions about this guidance should be directed to the appropriate ETA Regional Office.