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**DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES
ISSUANCE NUMBER PY 18-19**

Daryl E. Bassett, Director

June 28, 2019

TO: Local Workforce Development Area Administrators/Service Providers

SUBJECT: Long Term Unemployed Definition for Disaster Dislocated Worker Grants

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to establish the Arkansas State definition of the term “long-term unemployed individual” for the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) Title I-D Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants (DLWs), as described in WIOA § 170, TEGL 2-15, and 20 CFR 687.

References:

WIOA § 170(d)(2)
20 CFR 687.100 & 687.170(b)
TEGL 2-15

2. **General Information:** For Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants:

(1) In order to be eligible to receive disaster relief employment under sec. 170(b)(1)(B)(i) of WIOA, and individual must be:

(i) A dislocated worker;

(ii) A long-term unemployed individual;

(iii) An individual who is temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the emergency or disaster; or

(iv) An individual who is self-employed and becomes unemployed or significantly unemployed as a result of the emergency or disaster.

(2) In order to be eligible to receive employment and training activities and in rare instances, disaster relief employment under sec. 170(b)(1)(B)(ii) of WIOA, an individual must have relocated or evacuated from an area as a result of a disaster that has been declared or otherwise recognized, and be:

(i) A dislocated worker;

(ii) A long-term unemployed individual;

(iii) An individual who is temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the emergency or disaster; or

(iv) An individual who is self-employed and becomes unemployed or significantly underemployed as a result of the emergency or disaster.

3. **Definition:** For the purposes of eligibility for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I-D Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs), as described in WIOA § 170(d)(2)(B), 20 CFR 687.170(b)(ii), and TEGL 2-15, the following definition applies:

Long-term unemployed individuals: Individuals, who at the time of eligibility determination, have been:

- unemployed for at least 13 weeks, in aggregate, during the past 26 weeks, or
- not in the labor force for at least 13 weeks, in aggregate, during the past 26 weeks.

Please note that there is no previous work history requirement for this definition.

4. **Action Required:** Please ensure that this information is provided to the appropriate staff.
5. **Inquiries:** WIOATA@arkansas.gov
6. **Expiration Date:** Continuing