

# **Workforce Investment Act--Temporary Employment Project U.S. Department of Labor National Emergency Grant (NEG) Fact Sheet--NEG Disaster Project**

As Federal administrator of WIA, DCEO may apply for U. S. Department of Labor (DOL) National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds for counties declared federal disaster areas as part of a Public Assistance declaration to provide temporary employment to dislocated workers to assist with flood cleanup and recovery efforts.

As of June 3, we are awaiting FEMA Public Assistance declaration before developing and submitting to USDOL a funding request for eligible counties.

**Projected Start Date:** It is anticipated that work may begin the end of July or in August.

**Participating LWIAs:** At this time, we are awaiting Public Assistance declaration of counties and the LWIAs are assessing local need for clean-up work.

## **Eligible Temporary Worksites in Disaster-Declared Counties:**

- Local government properties are eligible worksites. Examples are counties, cities, townships, special districts (levee/drainage, park, fire, library, school, etc.).

Note that work on private properties is not allowed except with prior DCEO approval in the following two situations:

1. if workers from units of general local government are authorized to conduct such work and are performing such work.
2. repair and restoration work can be done on private property of economically disadvantaged individuals who are eligible for the federally-funded Weatherization program if the local government workers are doing such work, if work is limited to returning a home to a safe and habitable level (not improvements), if work is coordinated with local Weatherization agency, and other limitations. Priority is to be given to the homes of the elderly and persons with disabilities.

**Type of Disaster-Related Work:** Although most of the work done on past disaster projects has been debris removal (trash, branches, logs, etc.), eligible work can also include flood-related clerical work and the clean-up, demolition, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of destroyed public structures, facilities, and lands in disaster-declared counties. It is important to note that **all work activities must be related to the disaster, returning properties to a pre-disaster condition--no maintenance, improvements or mitigation work is allowed.**

**Duration:** The length of time an individual works is determined by the amount of work to be completed, but is limited to six months (1040 hours) and wages not to exceed \$12,000 during that time. Worksites may operate longer than 6 months by hiring replacement crews if a need continues for flood clean-up and recovery work.

**Wages:** Temporary workers will be paid wages equivalent to other workers performing similar work, with similar experience and skills. The LWIA will be the employer of record unless a temporary staffing agency is procured.

**Coordination:** LWIAs are to coordinate and work with FEMA and local governments to ensure non-duplication of services for those local governments awarded a FEMA Public Assistance grant.