



TPS/EAD

Working Group Overview

December 14, 2023, JTED TA Meeting
The Asylum Seeker Pipeline

New Arrivals Situational Awareness

New Arrivals Snapshot	
Total Individuals Seeking Asylum Arriving via Buses*	25,600
Total Individuals Seeking Asylum Arriving via Airplane Since June 2023	4,252
Total Bus Arrivals Since 8/31/2022	594
Total Individuals Independently Resettled **	9,328
Total Individuals Reunited with Sponsors **	3,233
Total Temporary Shelter Census	13,791
Total Awaiting Placement	622
Total Waiting in Police Station	404
Total Waiting at O'Hare	218
Total Waiting at Midway	0

SOURCE: [CITY OF CHICAGO](#) AS OF DECEMBER 12TH, 2023, AT 8AM

* DOES NOT INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS ARRIVING INDEPENDENTLY OR GREYHOUND.

** REPORTED WEEKLY

Accelerated Processing for Work Authorization

Humanitarian Temporary Protected Status

- Temporary Protected Status (TPS) has many advantages, including protection from forced removal, work permits, and advanced parole for those needing travel. Learn more [here](#).
- In September 2023, the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security announced the extension and redesignation of TPS for 18 months, through March 10, 2024, for Venezuelan Nationals in the United States as of July 31, 2023.
- Beginning October 1, USCIS accelerated processing for Employment Authorization Document (EAD) applications filed by parolees who scheduled an appointment through CBP One- asylum seekers who can apply for work authorization immediately.
- Employers may benefit from hiring individuals with TPS and EAD to support their talent pipeline.

WORKING GROUPS

Legal Services
Working Group

Workforce
Working Group



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity

TPS AND EAD WORKSHOPS

A cornerstone of this plan is a state-led effort to move thousands of individuals through The Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Employment Authorization Document (EAD) processes.

Increasing Resettlement

- TPS and EAD processes will enable asylum seekers to gain employment and achieve self-sufficiency.
- The State is standing up workshops with legal aid providers and pro-bono attorneys to facilitate an expedited application process.
- Workshops are co-located with federal immigration authorities and DCEO workforce programming so that federal checks and job search resources can be provided simultaneously.

Goals

- The State is taking the lead to increase independence to alleviate the strain on state resources.
- By February 2024, efforts aim to support 4,200+ applications for processing with an anticipated 2,500 for work permits.

WORKFORCE WORKSTREAM GOALS & STRATEGIES

Job Seekers Services: A Comprehensive Work Plan begins with the core activities associated with the newcomers' progression from arrival to legally obtaining Temporary Protected Status (TPS)/Employment Authorization Document (EAD) and securing employment. DCEO workforce grantees support efforts.



<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/newarrivals>



EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

579 interest forms collected to date

Aggregate from 403 interest forms from the six TPS/EAD legal workshops before December 4:

- 94 less than high school
- 189 high school education
- 30 Trade School (including construction skills)
- 90 some college (including nurses and other professionals from home country)



WORKFORCE WORKSTREAM GOALS & STRATEGIES

Employer Services: DCEO grantees help job seekers and employers across Illinois – including refugees and other eligible noncitizens authorized to work in the U.S. – access training, employment, and education opportunities.



PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

Active engagement with Illinois workNet [American Job Centers](#) (AJC) and other DCEO workforce grantees is one of many ways employers can unlock the potential of a diverse and inclusive workforce, meet labor needs effectively, and benefit the communities in which they operate.



TRAINING PROGRAMS

Employers can work with providers to identify specific skill gaps within the industry and develop training programs to prepare workers for roles alongside the advancement of incumbent workers. [Funding](#) may be available to offset the costs of employer-based training programs.



HIRING SOLUTIONS

Employers can explore local solutions, such as hiring events or access [IllinoisJobLink](#) and [Virtual Job Fairs](#) to help find suitable candidates. Employers may also consider launching specific strategies to serve refugees. Member organizations such as [Tent](#) can help employers identify and establish initiatives.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Employers can partner with [Illinois Adult Education](#) providers to offer free classes to employees and connect to English language learners with diverse skills, backgrounds, and language abilities who may be seeking employment.



BEST PRACTICES

Employers can share [success stories](#) of their initiatives to successfully integrate migrant workers into their workforce, highlighting the benefits and positive outcomes.



COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Employers can partner with [workforce providers](#) and immigrant-focused community organizations such as [Illinois Welcoming Centers](#) to facilitate networking events, employer forums, or labor market information to promote hiring opportunities.

JTED Support

JTED grantees may use funding for initiatives that support immigrants, migrant, and refugee populations to access “good jobs.”

There are a series of related WIOA webinars with best practices around the state that may be useful.

- Addressing “Brain Waste”: The Cost and Consequences of Skill Underutilization among Degreed Immigrants – (Pending rescheduling)
- Maximize One Stop Tools and Partners to Assist Immigrants – November 1, 2023
- Supporting Refugees with Title I and Title II Services: A Case Study – September 27, 2023 [recording](#)
- Supporting New Americans, Refugees, Asylees, and Migrants in Illinois – June 14, 2023 [recording](#)

If JTED grantees have best practices to help immigrants, refugees, and new Americans integrate into the local workforce, please don’t hesitate to share!