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CALIFORNIA

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DATE: December 13, 2019

TO: Current Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grant
Operating WorkSource Contractors

FROM: Gerardo Ruvalcaba, Director 
Workforce Development Division

SUBJECT: **WDS DIRECTIVE No. 20-11**
EXPANSION OF ELIGIBLE SECTORS FOR PLACEMENT OF
DISLOCATED WORKERS UNDER THE TRADE AND ECONOMIC
TRANSITION NATIONAL DISLOCATED WORKER GRANT (TET
NDWG)

EFFECTIVE DATE

This information bulletin is effective upon date of issuance.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise the current TET NDWG operating WorkSource Center contractors that the eligible sectors for placement of dislocated workers under the grant have been expanded to include the high-growth sectors noted in the Economic and Workforce Development Department's "High-Growth Sector Initiative Policy" in its Year 20 / 2019-20 Annual Plan. Additionally, eligible dislocated workers affected by the closure of Youth Policy Institute (YPI) on October 25, 2019, can be enrolled under the grant.

BACKGROUND

The Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) has been awarded \$1 million from the California Employment Development Department (EDD)'s TET NDWG to address ongoing or emerging workforce and economic challenges. The funding provides training and career services to dislocated workers from the Los Angeles region's Retail industry, which has experienced more than 17 closures (WARN and non-WARN) and over 3,500 individuals impacted by the economic downturn over the past 18 months.

The project was originally designed to expand career pathways for 200 dislocated workers from the Retail sector into the increasing employment opportunities of the Transportation sector in Los Angeles. EWDD originally planned to use the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Workforce Initiative Now-Los Angeles

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(WIN-LA) program as a model for developing career pathways in Transportation, including in construction, non-construction opportunities in operations/maintenance, and administration and professional services.

However, the Los Angeles region is mirroring the national workforce trend and experiencing an emergence of opportunities in multiple high-demand sectors. The sectors identified by the Los Angeles Workforce Development Board (LAWDB) as the focus of EWDD's "High-Growth Sector Initiative Policy," as stated in the EWDD's Year 20 Annual Plan, are: Advanced/Clean Manufacturing, Construction, Financial Services, Green Technology, Healthcare, Hospitality/Entertainment, Logistics, Security, Utilities, Biotechnology/Biosciences, and Information Technology. Therefore, to meet the demands of the market in the Los Angeles region, the TET NDWG program's sector focus for placement of dislocated retail workers has been expanded from Transportation to include all those aforementioned sectors. Because of the transferable skills between the Retail and Hospitality sectors, more emphasis has been placed on the latter industry, although all the high-growth sectors are now eligible under this grant.

Additionally, due to the recent layoff of over 900 employees at YPI, the list of identified sectors also includes Education and Administrative and Support Services, as many of YPI's dislocated workers have transferable skills for this sector. Due to the preexisting partnerships for the TET NDWG program, though, the economic transition to the Transportation sector should still be pursued.

All of the performance outcomes remain the same as in the original Scope of Work.

WDS CONTACT

If you have any questions or require further information related to this directive, please contact Chang Kim at Chang.Kim@lacity.org or at (213) 744-7163, TTY:711.

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Attachment: Los Angeles Region Retail Industry Layoffs (PY 2017-2019)