

National Dislocated Worker Grants: Performance Data Submission for CAREER Grantees

Introduction

National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWG) provide employment and training services with a goal of helping program participants obtain and retain employment. To evaluate the effectiveness of these programs the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) requires grantees to submit performance data including participant information, the type of services provided, and employment status. The performance data is collected in ETA's Workforce Integrated Performance System (WIPS), and all DWG recipients report via WIPS.

To validate the employment outcomes of program participants for certain performance measures, ETA utilizes Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records to determine employment status. Grantees who are not state entities do not have access to UI wage records, therefore, ETA has developed two avenues for reporting employment outcomes.

How do DWG Grantees submit performance reports?

All performance reporting data must be submitted via WIPS. Determining the employment status and earnings for a program participant is an important part of obtaining performance outcomes for grants. To upload a participant data file directly into WIPS requires grantees to have the necessary data collection systems in place. If a grantee is unable to submit data directly via WIPS, the grantee may partner with a State Workforce Agency (SWA) to conduct the reporting.

DWG grantees that are not a state entity, such as a community-based organization, Local Workforce Development Board, or Tribal Entity, have two options to complete the required performance reporting for DWGs:

- Partner with a SWA to assist the grantee with reporting; or
- Report directly via WIPS.

To connect with the state and local workforce system visit the [careeronestop website](https://www.careeronestop.org).

NOTE: SWAs are not obligated to report on behalf of grantees. Arrangements with a SWA must be initiated by the DWG grantee, must be mutually agreeable, and must be documented with a written agreement. Regardless of which entity handles performance reporting, grantees are still responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the data reported, including data certification and required edit checks.



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If I partner with a State Workforce Agency, are there additional requirements?

If a DWG recipient partners with a SWA, then grantees are required to establish data sharing agreements with the SWA that allows the state to conduct wage matching and, where appropriate, upload grant program data into WIPS on behalf of the grantee for Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) submissions. SWAs have reporting infrastructure in place to help grantees capture all of the required data, as well as experience with overcoming reporting logistics and challenges during the data submission process. Each state workforce agency is equipped to perform these services on the grantee's behalf. The state is not permitted to submit any data on the grantee's behalf without a data sharing agreement in place.

What is the purpose of wage matching for employment status verification?

Wage matching determines employment status and earnings for a program participant, which is an important part of obtaining performance outcomes for grants. Wage matching is the process of matching a participant's Social Security Number (SSN) against quarterly UI records to determine program exit outcomes for the following performance measures: Median Earnings after Exit, Employment Rate Second Quarter after Exit, Employment Rate Fourth Quarter after Exit, and Employment Retention Rates.

For DWG recipients that report directly via WIPS, ETA will conduct wage matching on their behalf utilizing the Common Reporting Information System (CRIS). For DWG recipients that partner with a SWA to report participant data, the state obtains the wage match validation.

Additional Resources

- ETA's Common Reporting Information System (CRIS) Page: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/performance/cris>
- Data Sharing Agreements 20 CFR 603.10: <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/CFR-2012-title20-vol3/CFR-2012-title20-vol3-sec603-10>
- Training and Employment Guidance Letter 14-18 https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=7611.

