

II. Program-Specific Recovery Plan for Recovery.gov (Q 2.8 of Guidance)	
DOL Agency MAX ID and name: Employment and Training Administration	
Recovery Program: Dislocated Worker National Emergency Grants	
Does this program align with an existing PART program?	10009003 Dislocated Worker National Emergency Grants
Does this program align with an existing CFDA program?	17.260
1. Objectives:	
Program Purpose	National Emergency Grants temporarily expand the service capacity of Workforce Investment Act training and employment programs at the state and local levels by providing funding assistance in response to large, unexpected economic events which cause significant job losses. Economic shocks include business closures, mass layoffs, realignment and closure of military installations, and certain natural disasters declared eligible for public assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
Public Benefits	NEGs provide resources to states and other eligible applicants to quickly reemploy laid-off workers and to enhance their employability and earnings by offering training to increase occupational skills.
2. Projects and Activities:	
Kinds and scope of projects and activities to be performed	The Recovery Act provides the National Emergency Grant Program with an additional \$200,000,000 for services to dislocated workers, such as job search assistance, assessment of skill levels, career counseling, prevocational services, and training.
	The funding provided in the Recovery Act provides additional capacity to meet the needs of American workers that have been laid-off. The funding is provided to states and other eligible applicants.
	In accordance with Sec. 801 of the Recovery Act, up to one percent of the program funds provided (\$2 million) may be used for management and oversight of the program. These funds will be expended in accordance with the operating plan submitted to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress.
Activity/Project	Funding will be provided as discrete grants to states and other eligible applicants. NEG applications are submitted on an as-needed basis, once regular Workforce Investment Act funding for services to dislocated workers reaches insufficient levels in the state. Grant applications are reviewed by the Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training and approved by the Secretary of Labor.
3. Characteristics:	
Types of Financial Awards to be used	B Project Grants
Type of Recipient	State, Local, Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Government, U.S. Territories and Possessions, Interstate
Type of Beneficiary	Unemployed

4. Major Planned Program Milestones:	
Issue Guidance	Issue a Training and Employment Guidance Letter describing policies and guidelines for Recovery Act-funded National Emergency Grants Completed: April 30, 2009
Update Systems	Make necessary changes to National Emergency Grant electronic application system to accommodate new types of grants available under the Recovery Act Expected Completion Date: June 30, 2009
Technical Assistance	Conduct outreach to states and other eligible applicants to communicate policies and guidelines Expected Completion Date: Ongoing through June 30, 2009
Review Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept grant applications and review according to established procedures • Make grant awards Expected Completion Date: Ongoing February 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010
Monitor Progress and Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review grant activities and outcomes through quarterly reports • Publish information about Recovery Act-funded grants on www.Recovery.gov and www.dol.gov/recovery Expected Completion Date: Ongoing through June 30, 2012
5. Monitoring and Evaluation:	
<p>The Department has established reporting systems and Office of Management and Budget-approved forms that grantees use to track, document and report expenditures and performance on a regularly scheduled basis that provides updated information to ETA at a minimum of once a quarter. Grantees are required to certify the accuracy of these reports prior to submitting them to ETA through the established electronic reporting systems.</p> <p>ETA uses its Grants Electronic Management System (GEMS) and other related electronic data collection systems to conduct and document quarterly desk reviews of financial obligations, expenditures and program performance. Grantees identified as “high risk grantees” through these reviews are given priority attention for on-site monitoring. ETA’s quarterly desk reviews along with on-site reviews are used to identify potential risks and effect program improvements through technical assistance and training.</p> <p>ETA Regional Offices are conducting “Regional Readiness Consultations” with state and local areas during April and May 2009. The results of the consultations will be analyzed and will inform ETA of specific technical assistance needs required for states and local areas to successfully implement Recovery Act-funded programs.</p> <p>To further ensure that funds are spent on the intended purpose and accurately reported, the Department requires all grantees to submit single audits annually. ETA works with grantees to resolve any audit findings through additional reviews and the development and implementation of corrective action plans.</p> <p>ETA conducts a final review of each grantee’s expenditures and performance during the grant close-out process.</p>	

As for program evaluations, the Department is in the process of developing a plan for evaluating several components of the Recovery Act-funded programs. These evaluations will likely be implementation studies.

Top Management Challenges identified by the Office of Inspector General for the Department include:

Improving Performance Accountability of Grants

All state and local government and nonprofit recipients that expend \$500,000 or more in Federal assistance in one year are required by the Single Audit Act to obtain an annual audit by an independent public accountant. A challenge for the Department is that grantees' audits conducted under the Single Audit Act are not always completed in a timely manner. Therefore, ETA has implemented a procedure for annually reviewing ETA grantees' Single Audit Act report status and sending written notifications to grantees whose single audit reports are delinquent.

Single Audits

Issue	Actions Remaining
Send follow up letters to grantees who continue to be delinquent	No action to report.
	November 2009
Codify standard operating procedures into Procedures Manuals	To date, procedures have been updated to include steps for sending delinquent notices to grantees once the list has been received from the accounting office.
	FY 2009

6. Measures:

Measure Text	Entered Employment Rate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	The entered employment rate represents the percentage of participants employed in the first quarter after exit from the NEG program. This is a federal job training program common performance measure, which enables the NEG program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment, and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the NEG program is workers directly impacted by specific economic events, the ultimate outcomes for this program are the same as for all other employment and training programs. Common performance measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. This performance indicator tracks the success of the NEG program's purpose: to provide assistance to help workers re-enter employment. It measures how many participants got a job according to the following formula: of those who are not employed at the date of participation – the number of NEG participants who are employed in the first quarter after the exit from the program quarter divided by the number of NEG participants who exited during the quarter. There is no targeted ARRA Increment. The target was set using a regression model based on

	past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its entered employment rate in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown below.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	65.7%
Revised Full Program Target	65.7%
Targeted ARRA Increment	0
Actual	
Goal Lead	Erica Cantor
Measure Text	Employment Retention Rate
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Percentage
Explanation of Measure	<p>The employment retention rate represents the percentage of participants employed in the first quarter after program exit still employed in the second and third quarters after exit from the NEG program. This is a federal job training program common performance measure, which enables the NEG program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment, and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the NEG program is workers directly impacted by specific economic events, the ultimate outcomes for this program are the same as for all other employment and training programs. Common performance measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. This performance indicator tracks the success of the NEG program in assisting individuals in finding re-employment opportunities that are suitable for their needs, so they don't find themselves in a position of needing to avail themselves of re-employment services again in the near-term. This performance indicator measures how many participants retained their employment once placed in a job, according to the following formula: of those who are employed in the first quarter after the exit quarter – the number of NEG participants who are employed in both the second and third quarters after the exit quarter divided by the number of NEG participants who exited during the quarter. By defining a positive outcome as employment in the first, second, and third quarters after the quarter of exit, the measure approximates retention for at least six months following participation in the program. There is no targeted ARRA Increment. The target was set using a regression model based on past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its employment retention rate in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown below.</p>
Year	2009

Original Program Target	79.9%
Revised Full Program Target	79.9%
Targeted ARRA Increment	0
Actual	
Goal Lead	Erica Cantor
Measure Text	Average Earnings
Measure Type	Outcome
Measure Frequency	Annual
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Dollars
Explanation of Measure	<p>This measure represents the average six-month earnings for program completers. This is a federal job training program common performance measure, which enables the NEG program to describe in a similar manner the core purposes and results of the program compared to other education, employment, and job training programs. For example, while the target population for the NEG program is workers directly impacted by specific economic events, the ultimate outcomes for this program are the same as for all other employment and training programs. Common performance measures remove a barrier to service integration among programs by ensuring that programs no longer have different definitions and methodologies for measuring performance. In this case, the performance indicator measures participants' average six-month earnings once placed in a job, according to the following formula: of those NEG program participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter – total earnings in the second quarter plus total earnings in the third quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of NEG program participants who exited during the quarter. There is no targeted ARRA Increment. The target was set using a regression model based on past program results and the unemployment rate. Because of the high unemployment rate and a contracted economy, DOL does not expect that Recovery Act funding will allow the program to improve its average earnings in the short-term. However, the funds will allow more individuals to receive services. This output measure is shown below.</p>
Year	2009
Original Program Target	\$11,486
Revised Full Program Target	\$11,486
Targeted ARRA Increment	0
Actual	
Goal Lead	Erica Cantor
Measure Text	<p>Monthly Performance Report Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participants served <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of UI claimants ○ Number of Veterans ○ Number of individuals with disabilities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individual training accounts • Number of participants in training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number in on-the-job training ○ Number in skill upgrading and retraining ○ Number in customized training • Number receiving supportive services (except needs-related payments) • Number receiving needs-related payments
Measure Type	Output
Measure Frequency	Monthly
Direction of Measure	Increasing
Unit of Measure	Aggregate Participant Counts
Explanation of Measure	Participant levels, by select target characteristics and service categories. This information will enable the Department to report on short-term indicators which are aligned with the intended use of Recovery expenditures. For example, it is the intent of the Recovery Act to increase services to UI claimants as well as veterans and persons with disabilities. Implementation guidance also stresses the need to provide training and those supportive services which aid participant training. These set indicators will help describe the Department's progress in these areas on a consistent basis. The Department is working to set targets for the output measures.
Year	2009
Original Program Target	Baseline
Revised Full Program Target	New Measure
Targeted ARRA Increment	0
Actual	
Goal Lead	Gay Gilbert, Administrator Office of Workforce Investment
7. Transparency and Accountability:	
<p>Consistent with the transparency and accountability objectives of the Recovery Act, states will submit supplemental monthly reports in addition to continuing to submit current quarterly and annual reports. The supplemental monthly reports will provide more detailed information on training and other services delivered than is available in current quarterly reports. The supplemental report will not require a new data collection but will contain data that is collected, but not currently reported, except annually. The supplemental monthly data enable the identification of customers for whom receipt of employment and training services is emphasized under the Recovery Act. The customers include low-income and public assistance recipients, unemployment insurance claimants, veterans, youth, and customers requiring supportive services (such as transportation and child and dependent care) in order to participate in training and related services.</p> <p>Additionally, beginning in May 2010 grantees will submit participant records quarterly. These data will support rigorous analyses of services provided represented by the demographic characteristics of the recipients of service and geographically.</p> <p>The Department of Labor cost accounting model used for regular appropriations will be applied to the NEG program.</p>	

ETA will post the summary of program data on the ETA website, the DOL Recovery webpage, and Recovery.gov.
8. Federal Infrastructure Investments:
NA
9. Barriers to Effective Implementation:
NA
10. Environmental Review Compliance:
NA