

Division Of Employment & Rehabilitation Services
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I-B
Informational Broadcast (IB)
26-002

Clarification: Rapid Response Policy, Section 900
Effective Immediately

This Informational Broadcast (IB) is issued to inform all Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) and interested parties of clarifications to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Rapid Response Policy, Section 900. The updates in this broadcast will be included in the WIOA Rapid Response Policy when it is revised. *The final policy, once issued will supersede the guidance provided in this IB.*

Section 904.B - Composition of the Rapid Response Event Team *is revised to read as follows:*

State Rapid Response representatives maintain the Rapid Response information on the [Rapid Response - Workforce Reduction Support DES website](#). This team, in partnership with the Local Area Rapid Response Coordinators, assists the LWDB team by coordinating State-level staff trained to provide the following:

1. Services to employers and job seekers, and to ensure that all appropriate Employment Service enrollments and services for affected workers are entered into the State's system of record.
2. Information on Unemployment Insurance benefits.
3. Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) (if applicable).
4. Information on Registered Apprenticeship (if applicable).
5. Information on programs that offer basic needs assistance, such as Nutrition Assistance and Utility Assistance (if applicable).

Section 906.03 - Initial Employer Meeting *is revised to read as follows:*

Once the employer is engaged, an initial meeting with the Rapid Response Event Team, the employer, and the employee representatives will be held as soon as possible. The Local Area Rapid Response Coordinator will ensure that the local labor representative is included in the initial meeting (if applicable). The initial contact meeting will provide information and a discussion of:

- A. Available programs, service providers, and resources in the LWDA, to meet the short-term and long-term assistance needs of the affected workers, including:
1. Reemployment Services;
 2. Unemployment Insurance;
 3. Job Training, which includes Work-Based Learning, as described in Section 906.01.D of this policy;
 4. TAA, if the event involves an employer who is working with the TAA team;
 5. Financial counseling, if applicable, from an entity that provides this service in the LWDA; and
 6. Federal and State emergency management agencies, if the dislocation is due to a disaster.

Section 912.01 - Annual Allotment *is revised to read as follows:*

Pursuant to [Section 134\(a\)\(2\) of the WIOA](#) and [20 CFR § 683.120\(f\)](#), the State may reserve up to 25 percent of the dislocated worker funds allocated, pursuant to the [WIOA Section 132\(b\)\(2\)\(B\)](#), and the Workforce Arizona Council's [Funding Allocation Policy](#). DES distributes these funds to LWDBs annually, in accordance with the Council Policy.

Section 912.02 - Recapture and Reallocation of Funds heading has been revised as written, and the language in this section *is revised to read as follows:*

Rapid Response funds will be recaptured and reallocated pursuant to the [Workforce Arizona Council's policies](#).

All requests for clarification regarding implementation should be sent to the Title [I Policy team](#) at TitleIPolicy@azdes.gov.

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