

Need-based (Low-income) Job Training Funding Sources

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) (Federal Program):

Adult Programs

Dislocated Worker Program

“Last resort funding”

Must apply for Pell Grant first.

Applicants should be “stable” that is have everyday living expenses covered to be eligible for WIA training funding.

These programs aim at vocational training for entering the workforce and are not available to fully fund a 4-year degree (may be used to fund the last two years of a 4-year program). Eligible programs may be up to two years or 104 training weeks and must be for “in demand” work skills.

There *may* be supportive services monies available in addition to funds for the training program itself; funds would be coordinated through partner agencies. These are not generally advertised and are determined completely on an individual, case-by-case basis.

State Training and Employment Program (STEP) (State Program):

Very “last resort” funding.

Used only if WIA funds not available.

Applicant must apply for Pell Grant first.

Training program must be vocationally in demand; trainee must express intent to remain in the state after training to work.

There *may* be supportive services funding available, but this is done completely on an individual basis by interviewing the person to determine their needs. Supportive services would be obtained through coordination with other aid programs.

Alaska Temporary Assistance Program (ATAP) (State Program)

Contracts with Nine Star Enterprises for many of their services:

The overall purpose of Nine Star's Employment Training programs is to assist Alaska Temporary Assistance recipients to **get a job, keep a job, and advance on the job** — thus making it possible for clients and their families **to live a better life**.

Nine Star is one of a network of agencies working together to provide employment support and services. Network members, who provide case management, job coaching, job clubs, job referrals, and other employment services to the Alaska Temporary Assistance Program client, include:

- Nine Star Education and Employment Services

- the Division of Public Assistance (DPA)
- Department of Labor (DOL)
- Alaska Housing Financial Corporation (AHFC)
- other agencies

Supportive services will be determined on a case-by-case basis and *may* include gas money, special tools required by the training program, auto insurance, auto registration, and bus passes. Nine Star collaborates and coordinates all services with WIA, Pell Grant funding, and any other funding source (including education loan programs if feasible) to meet each client's needs based on the family's eligibility for each supportive program.

Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Eligible clients can choose from many different services—some without cost. Clients may share costs for others. Clients and their counselors choose specific services the client needs to be employable.

Free Services

- Medical exam to see if you qualify and to help plan your career.
- Counseling, especially about disability issues that affect you.
- Help choosing the job goal that's right for you.
- Referral to other agencies that can help you.
- Tests and other tools to better understand your talents, etc.
- On-the-job training with a real employer while you work.
- A short-term job try-out called a "Community Assessment."
- Training designed for you, to help you adjust to working.
- Job search and placement services.
- Interpreter, reader, and tutoring services.

Services Clients May Help Pay For

- All training (except on-the-job training)
- Books, training supplies, tools, equipment (including computers), and other supplies.
- Living expenses, see your counselor for details.
- Transportation (getting from place to place).
- Medical care and therapy
- Self-employment.
- Devices that help with your disability.
- Services to family members
- Work licenses.
- Any other goods or services.

Clients who receive Public Assistance or SSI will not have to pay for needed services. Where other state or federal programs offer overlapping services, DVR may ask clients to apply for and use those services first to ensure optimal use of DVR funding.