

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment and Training Services

Labor House Finance Subcommittee

February 8, 2017



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSIONER HEIDI DRYGAS

Vocational Rehabilitation



MISSION:

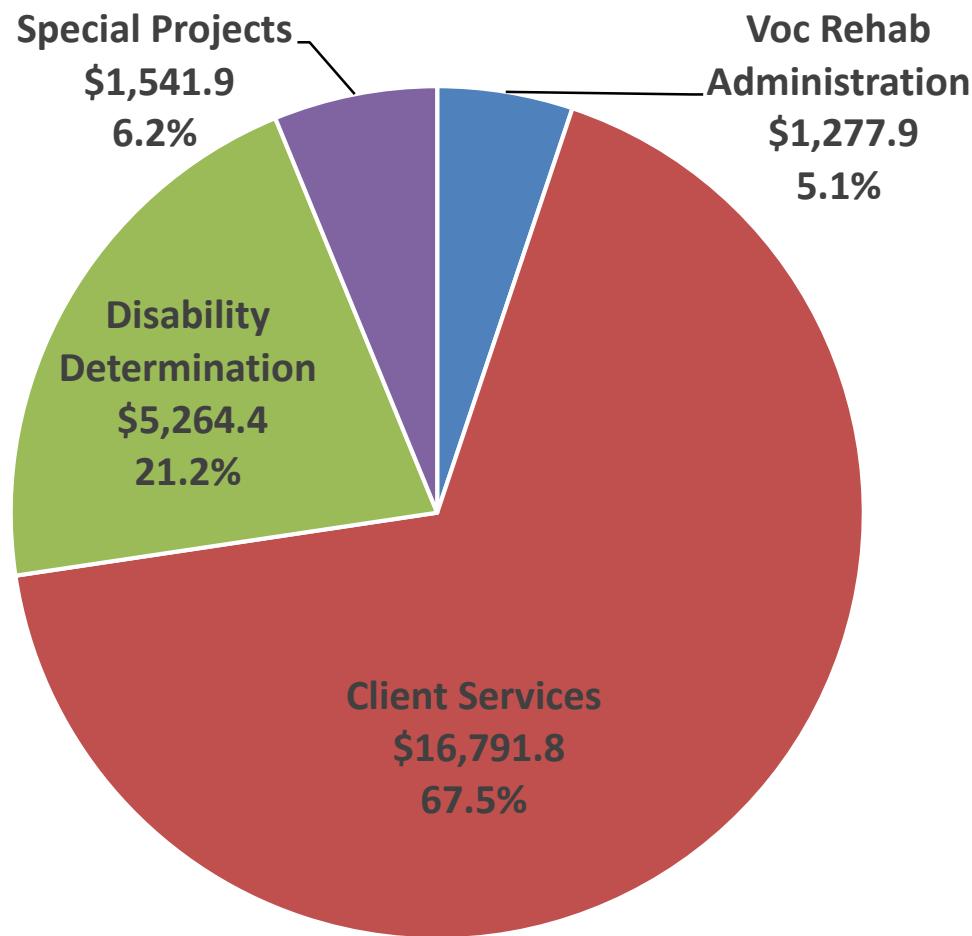
To assist individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment

CORE SERVICES:

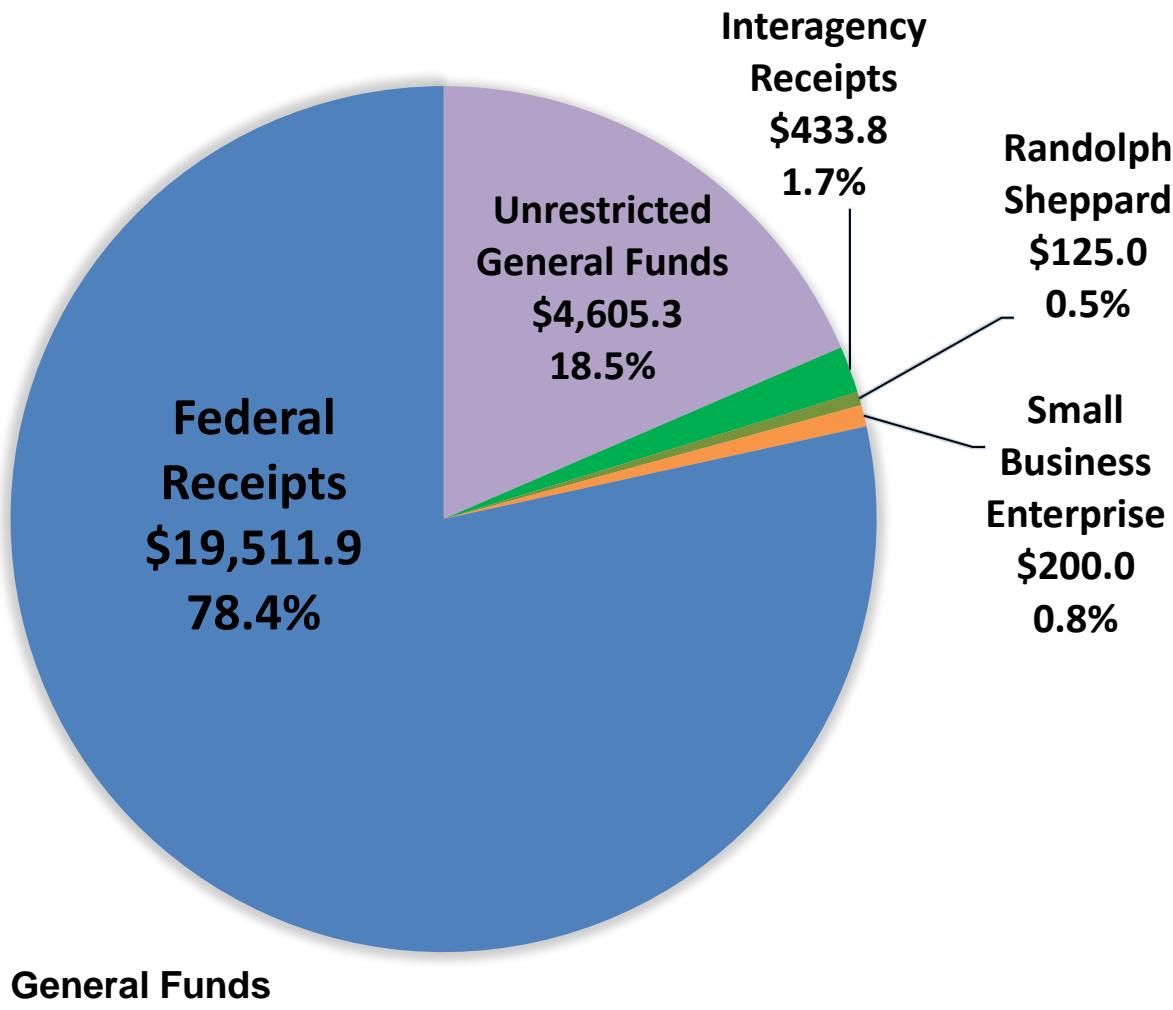
- Eligibility, priority of services and vocational rehabilitation needs assessment
- Vocational rehabilitation counseling and guidance
- Job search, placement assistance and job retention services
- Pre-employment transition services for students and youth with disabilities
- Information and referral for other needed services



Vocational Rehabilitation FY2018 Budget by Component



Vocational Rehabilitation FY2018 Budget by Fund Source

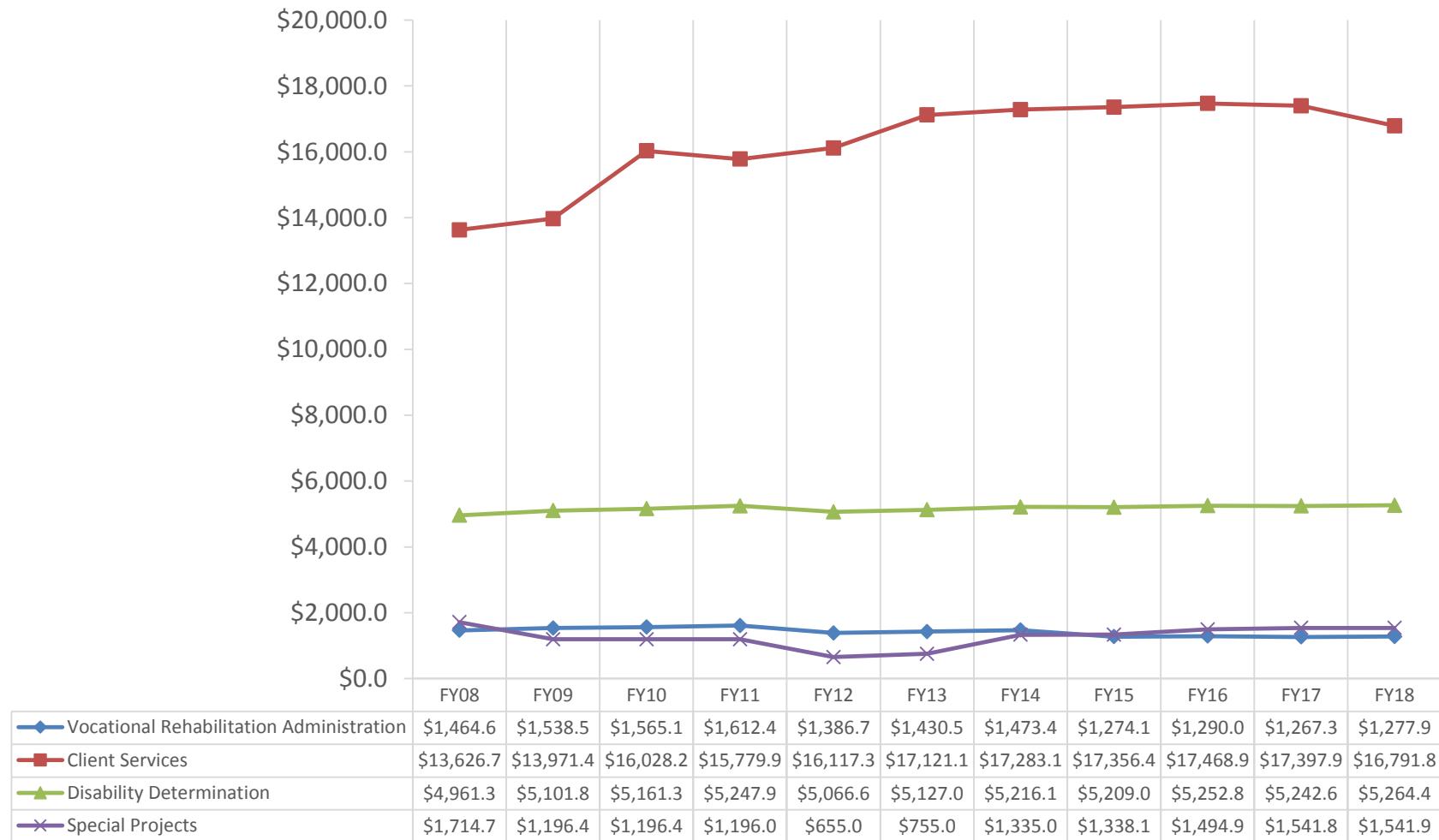


Vocational Rehabilitation Fund Source Information

Fund Source	Income Source	Use
Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	State general fund	Federal match requirement for Client Services and Special Projects; and Center for Blind and Visually Impaired grant funding
Federal Receipts	Federal government	Vocational rehabilitation Client Services and Special Projects funding
Interagency Receipts (Other)	Other agencies	DHSS for Disability Determinations; and DEED for some disabled youth services
Randolph Sheppard (Other)	Commissions from vending machines in federal buildings	Business Enterprise Program – food/coffee/vending services in federal and state buildings managed by individuals who experience blindness and other severe disabilities
Small Business Enterprise (DGF)	Commissions from vending machines in state buildings	Business Enterprise Program



Vocational Rehabilitation Budget by Component FY08-FY18



Vocational Rehabilitation FY2016 Program Highlights

- 95% of program participants have significant disabilities with multiple barriers to employment
- 569 individuals exited the program employed
- \$14.38/hr. average wage – far exceeding federal and Alaskan minimum wage levels



Vocational Rehabilitation Program Challenges

- Meeting federal requirements to spend 15% of program funds on services to students and youth with disabilities
- Maintaining a sufficient number of qualified community rehabilitation providers
- Serving Alaskans with disabilities in rural/remote communities with funding challenges
- Keeping current with assistive technology changes



Employment and Training Services



MISSION:

To advance opportunities for employment and provide economic stability for Alaska communities

CORE SERVICES:

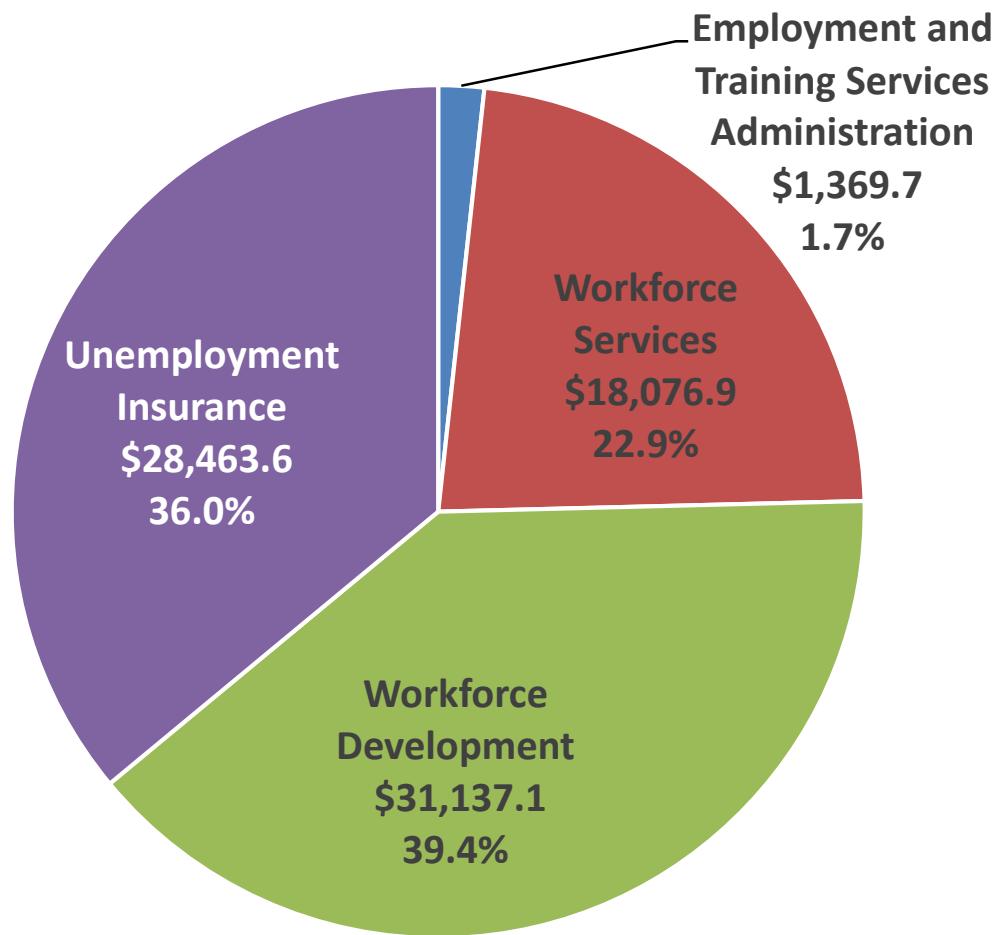
- Maximize the degree to which workforce investment resources are utilized according to industry priorities
- Connect employers with qualified job seekers
- Prepare more Alaskans for jobs requiring the equivalent of a high school diploma
- Pay unemployment insurance benefits to Alaskans while they are temporarily unemployed



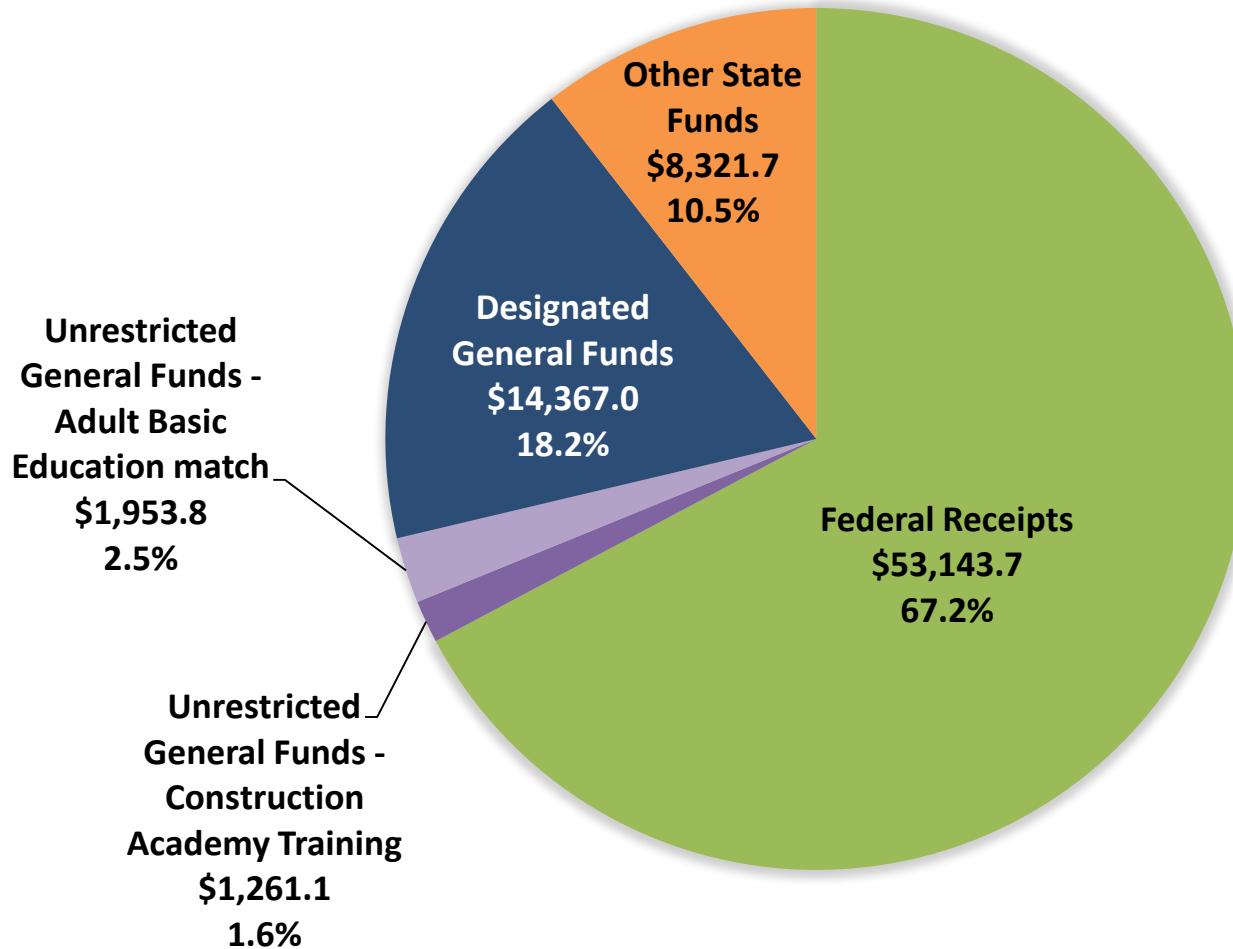
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COMMISSIONER HEIDI DRYGAS



Employment and Training Services FY2018 Budget by Component



Employment and Training Services FY2018 Budget by Fund Source



Employment and Training Services Fund Source Information

Fund Source	Income Source	Use
Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	State general fund	Adult Basic Education federal match requirement and grants for Construction Academies
Federal Receipts (Fed)	Federal government	Unemployment Insurance administration, job center services, federal workforce development grants, and Adult Basic Education
General Fund Program Receipts (DGF)	Fees for release of confidential information	Costs to provide confidential information
Training and Building Fund (DGF)	UI penalty and interest fees	Job center services funding
State Training and Employment Program (DGF)	Portion of employee unemployment insurance contributions	Competitive grants and individual training accounts
Technical and Vocational Education Program (DGF)	Portion of employee unemployment insurance contributions	Grants to technical and vocational training providers per statute



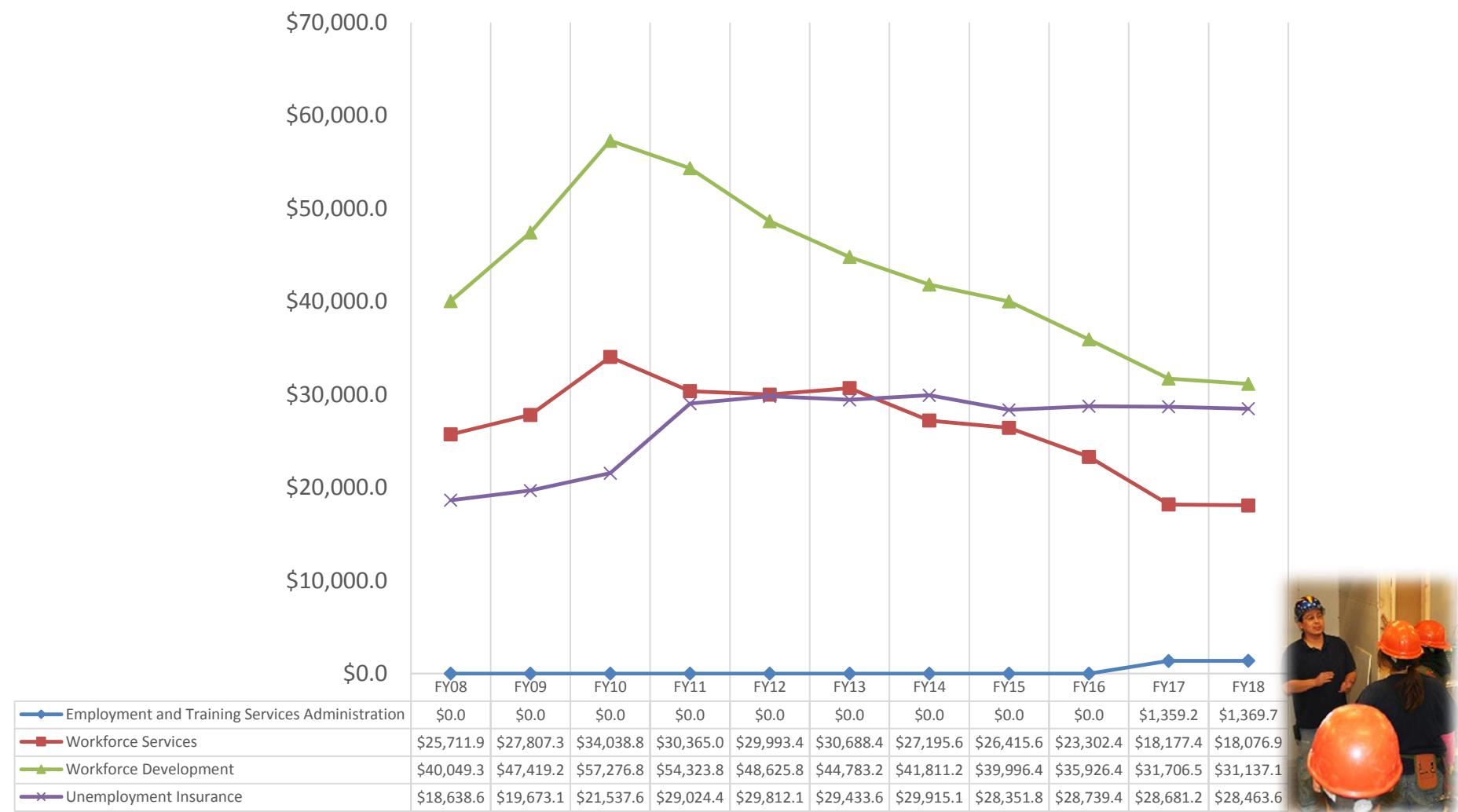
Employment and Training Services Fund Source Information

Fund Source	Income Source	Use
Interagency Receipts (Other)	Other agencies	Various services for other state agencies
Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts (Other)	Mental Health Trust receipts	Recidivism reduction efforts
Statutory Designated Program Receipts (Other)	Job fair receipts from employers	Job fair setup expenses



Employment and Training Services Budget by Component

FY08-FY18



Employment and Training Services FY2016 Program Highlights

- Merged two divisions
 - Reorganized staff and programs to streamline administrative costs
 - Put an additional \$1 million on the street as grants
- Worked with partners in the development of a four-year strategic and operational Alaska State Combined Workforce Plan
- Paid timely Unemployment Insurance benefits to 40,786 claimants totaling over \$132 million



Employment and Training Services Program Challenges

- Working with Adult Basic Education (ABE) regional providers to incorporate career pathways information and connections for pre-apprenticeship and pre-employment training for ABE students
- Continuing registered apprenticeship expansion initiatives in partnership with health care, maritime and aviation employers
- Creating an integrated registration process across unemployment insurance and employment services programs
- Reducing UI fraud and benefit overpayments



**WE'RE PREPARING ALASKANS FOR
THE JOBS OF TODAY—AND
TOMORROW.**

**Alaska Department of Labor and
Workforce Development
Commissioner Heidi Drygas**

Email: Commissioner.Labor@alaska.gov
Phone: (907) 465-2700



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