

Federal Employment and Skills Training Funds in Kansas

Three-Year Funding Snapshot for Policy Discussion

Executive Summary

Kansas' employment and skills-training system is supported by multiple federal funding streams administered through different state agencies. No single WIOA expenditure measure captures the full public investment or the value of aligning these resources through effective regional workforce boards.

How WIOA Operates in Kansas

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is the principal federal law organizing the public workforce system. It connects four core program titles under a common planning and accountability framework, but the programs retain separate funding rules, eligible populations, and administering organizations.

- Title I - Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs: The Kansas Department of Commerce receives and oversees the federal allocation. Services are organized through Kansas' three Local Workforce Development Areas, where by federal statute employer-led local boards and chief elected officials guide regional priorities and workforce centers deliver or contract for employment, training, and supportive services.
- Title II - Adult Education and Literacy: The Kansas Board of Regents administers funding through adult-education providers that help adults build basic skills, earn high-school equivalency credentials, learn English, and connect to postsecondary education and employment.
- Title III - Wagner-Peyser Employment Service: The Kansas Department of Commerce operates labor-exchange and related employment services through state staff and the KANSASWORKS system. Effective referrals and co-enrollment between Title III and locally operated Title I services are essential to increasing access to training.
- Title IV - Vocational Rehabilitation: The Kansas Department for Children and Families administers employment and rehabilitation services for eligible Kansans with disabilities.

The Governor appoints the State Workforce Board, which helps establish statewide strategy and supports the state WIOA plan. Local workforce boards translate that strategy into regional services, build employer partnerships, oversee local Title I delivery, and braid WIOA with education, human-services, employer, and competitive-grant resources. This division of responsibilities makes coordination across agencies - rather than centralizing every program under one operator - the central policy challenge and opportunity.

Funding Context

- The four core WIOA titles provided approximately \$42.8 million in 2023, \$55.7 million in 2024, and \$60.3 million in 2025 through federal formula allotments or awards to Kansas.
- WIOA Title I—the funding most directly governed through local workforce boards—represented about \$12.1 million in 2025, or roughly one-fifth of the four-title total.
- The Kansas Governor's FY 2027 Budget Report identifies \$3.49 million in actual FY 2025 expenditures for TANF Employment Services and SNAP Employment & Training. It also presents a \$4.66 million Governor's recommendation for FY 2026. The FY 2026 figure is a proposed budget amount—not a final expenditure—and should be read separately from the prior-year actuals.

At-a-Glance Annual Scale

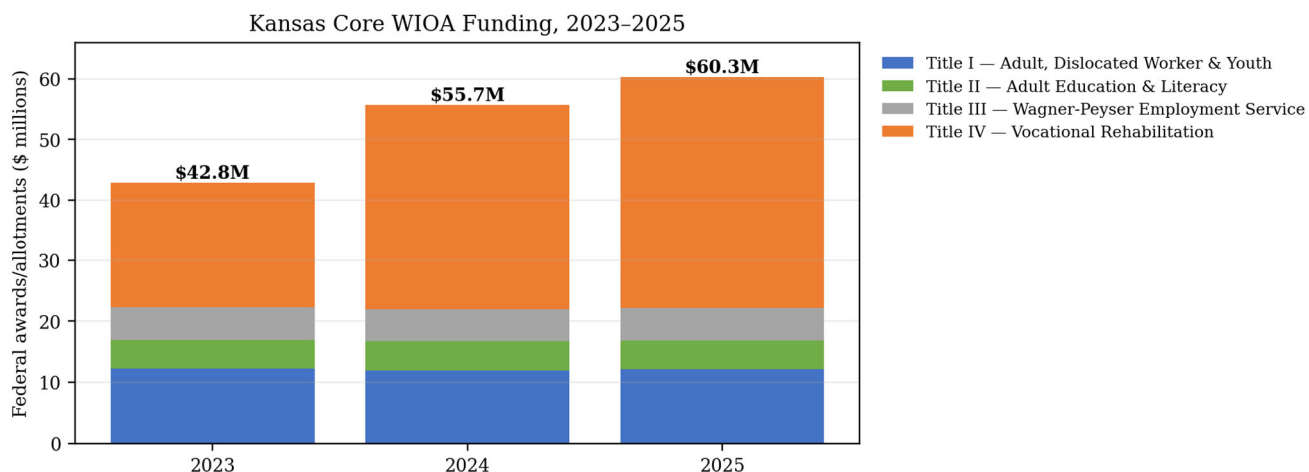
Funding group	WIOA PY/FY 2023 DCF FY 2024	WIOA PY/FY 2024 DCF FY 2025	WIOA PY/FY 2025 DCF FY 2026
Core WIOA Titles I-IV	\$42,844,831	\$55,698,831	\$60,289,010
DCF TANF + SNAP employment/training	\$2,849,948	\$3,485,836	\$4,656,042*

* The FY 2026 DCF amounts are the Governor’s recommendations shown in the FY 2027 budget report, not actual expenditures. The WIOA and DCF rows also use different reporting periods and that qualification should be noted.

Section 1 — Core WIOA Formula Funding to Kansas

The table below shows the four WIOA core titles. Titles I and III are U.S. Department of Labor program-year allotments; Titles II and IV are U.S. Department of Education fiscal-year authorizations or awards. The year headings therefore mean PY for Titles I and III and FY for Titles II and IV. Amounts are best understood as an annual funding scale, not a single cash-basis accounting statement.

WIOA funding stream	PY/FY 2023	PY/FY 2024	PY/FY 2025	Three-year average
Title I — Adult, Dislocated Worker & Youth	\$12,208,391	\$11,944,163	\$12,126,687	\$12,093,080
Title II — Adult Education & Literacy	\$4,682,951	\$4,726,633	\$4,726,633	\$4,712,072
Title III — Wagner-Peyser Employment Service	\$5,370,575	\$5,313,527	\$5,270,052	\$5,318,051
Title IV — Vocational Rehabilitation	\$20,582,914	\$33,714,508	\$38,165,638	\$30,821,020
TOTAL — CORE WIOA TITLES	\$42,844,831	\$55,698,831	\$60,289,010	\$52,944,224



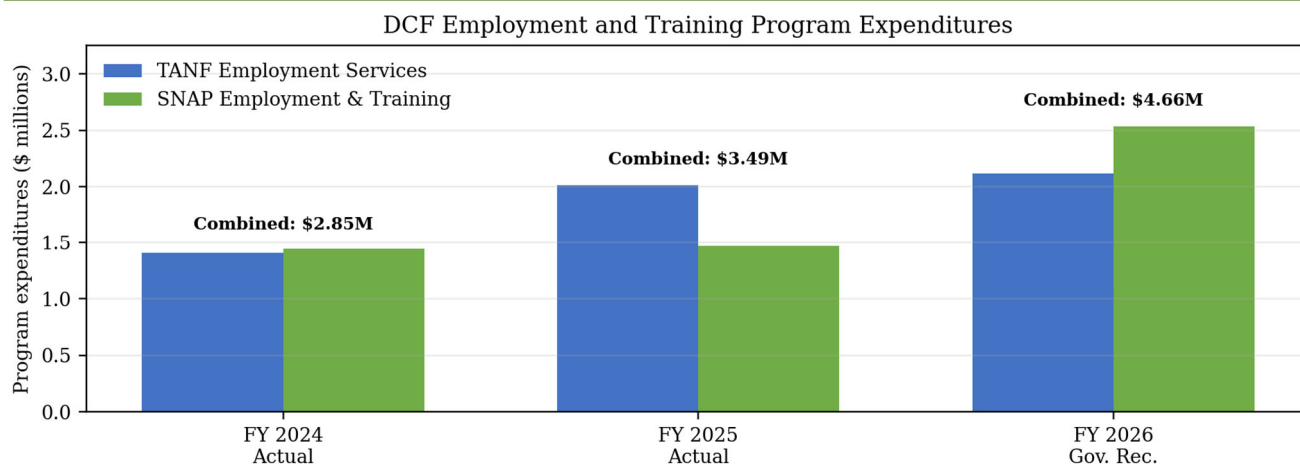
What the WIOA Table Shows

- Title I funding remained near \$12 million annually; it is important, but it is only one part of Kansas' federally supported workforce system.
- The largest recent increase was in Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation. Coordinating these resources with regional employer networks could materially expand employment outcomes for Kansans with disabilities.
- A statewide strategy should measure combined participant and employer outcomes across titles—not judge local workforce capacity solely by the share of Title I dollars coded as direct training expenditures.

Section 2 — DCF Employment and Training Resources

In addition to WIOA Title IV funding, Kansas DCF administers additional programs that can support employment, work preparation, supportive services, and skill development. The state budget identifies discrete TANF Employment Services and SNAP Employment & Training expenditure lines. These program totals are shown because the budget tables do not isolate the federal share from every other funding source at the program-line level.

DCF program	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Gov. Rec.	Three-year average
TANF Employment Services	\$1,406,390	\$2,015,671	\$2,119,846	\$1,847,302
SNAP Employment & Training	\$1,443,558	\$1,470,165	\$2,536,196	\$1,816,640
TOTAL — IDENTIFIED DCF E&T LINES	\$2,849,948	\$3,485,836	\$4,656,042	\$3,663,942



Policy Implications

- Federal WIOA law generally identifies TANF as a required one-stop partner, but permits a Governor to exclude TANF statewide or in specified local areas through written notification to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. Kansas has historically operated TANF outside the required-partner structure. Regardless of that designation, TANF and SNAP employment resources serve populations that often overlap with WIOA customers, making shared intake, referrals, supportive services, co-enrollment, and outcome tracking practical priorities.
- The figures are conservative: they do not include the full TANF or SNAP benefit programs, every DCF work-related expenditure, competitive workforce grants, employer investments, or other education and training funds.

Section 3 — What the 2019 Statewide Inventory Adds

The fragmentation of Kansas employment and skills-training resources is not a new issue. In 2019, an inventory was attempted through the Governor's Education Council to identify federal employment and training resources administered by multiple state agencies, local workforce boards, education systems, and other organizations.

The inventory demonstrated the diversity of funding streams and responsible organizations, including WIOA programs, Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, TANF and SNAP employment services, Registered Apprenticeship, veterans programs, dislocated-worker services, corrections education, and other targeted initiatives. It was a useful starting point, but it did not lead to sustained cross-agency coordination or a common system for tracking investments, participants, services, and outcomes.

The next Governor should assign the State Workforce Board responsibility for completing and maintaining a current statewide inventory. The Board should establish common definitions, identify opportunities for referrals and co-enrollment, and report how resources are being coordinated to produce measurable employment, credential, earnings, and employer outcomes. Direct support from the Governor's Office would give the State Workforce Board the authority needed to secure meaningful participation from all relevant agencies.

A refreshed inventory would also reinforce the appropriate division of responsibilities: state leadership should coordinate policy, funding, data, and accountability, while regional workforce boards braid available resources and organize services around the needs of local employers and job seekers.

Some states use a more integrated model that channels multiple workforce and human-services funding streams through regional workforce boards for coordinated local delivery. The Texas Workforce Commission, for example, passes several federal and state resources to local boards, including WIOA Titles I and III, TANF, SNAP Employment and Training, child-care funds, and other workforce programs. Michigan also assigns significant operational responsibility to regional workforce organizations. These approaches illustrate how strong state coordination can coexist with—and support—locally led service delivery.

Data Notes and Sources

This working brief is designed for policy discussion and should be updated as final award and expenditure reports become available. Figures are rounded only in the narrative and charts; tables retain reported dollar amounts.

- Title I: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, TEGL 15-22 (PY 2023), TEGL 12-23 (PY 2024), and TEGL 11-24 (PY 2025). Title I totals combine Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth allotments.
- Title II: U.S. Department of Education, National Reporting System Federal Financial Reports for Kansas (FY 2023 and FY 2024). FY 2025 is shown at the FY 2024 level based on the Department of Education state estimate available for the period and should be replaced with the final Kansas authorization when published.
- Title III: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Wagner-Peyser Employment Service allotment tables accompanying TEGL 15-22, TEGL 12-23, and TEGL 11-24.
- Title IV: U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, State Vocational Rehabilitation Services (84.126A) formula grant awards for Kansas, FY 2023–FY 2025.

- TANF and SNAP: Kansas Governor’s Budget Reports, FY 2026 Volume 2 and FY 2027 Volume 2, Department for Children & Families—Economic & Employment Services program tables. FY 2024 and FY 2025 are actual expenditures; FY 2026 is the Governor’s recommendation in the FY 2027 report.
- TANF one-stop partnership: WIOA section 121(b)(1)(B)(ix) generally identifies TANF as a required one-stop partner. WIOA section 121(b)(2) and 20 C.F.R. § 678.405 permit a Governor to exclude TANF statewide or in specified local areas through written notification to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services.
- Historical inventory: Inventory for Governors Education Council.xlsx, 2018–2019. The inventory is referenced as evidence of the range of employment and skills-training programs and administering organizations, not as a current funding schedule.
- Timing: WIOA Titles I and III use federal program years; Titles II and IV use federal fiscal years; DCF uses Kansas state fiscal years. Amounts should be treated as an annual scale of resources rather than a consolidated audited total.
- 2026 update: U.S. Department of Labor TEGL 10-25 provides PY 2026 allotments for WIOA Titles I and III. Those amounts should be incorporated when a complete and comparable four-title FY/PY 2026 data set is available.
- Scope: The brief intentionally excludes broad cash/food assistance benefit totals, unemployment insurance administration, Perkins career and technical education, competitive grants, employer investments, and other funding unless clearly identified as employment or skills-training resources.

Inventory of Employment & Training Funds 2018 - 2019

<u>State Agency</u>	<u>PY2018</u>	<u>PY2019</u>
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - Education & Training # <i>(See below for program summaries)</i>		
CRIS [?]	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
Foreign Labor Certification [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 110,010.00	\$ 110,010.00
Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Project (KHPOP) [Federal HHS]	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ -
KIT/KIR [State Funds]	\$ 1,655,000.00	\$ 1,655,000.00
One-Stop Grant (UI) [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 421,676.00	\$ 419,199.00
Registered Apprenticeship [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 1,050,000.00	\$ 1,271,654.00
RESEA [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 735,712.00	\$ 638,580.00
RETAIN [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 1,877,823.00	\$ -
SCSEP [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 805,717.00	\$ 808,365.00
Trade Adjustment Act [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 3,759,932.00	\$ 3,062,476.00
Vets Employment (JVSG) [Federal, Department of Defense]	\$ 1,451,732.00	\$ 1,436,326.00
Wagner-Peyser [Federal, US DOL - WIOA Title III]	\$ 5,537,725.00	\$ 5,469,981.00
WIOA Rapid Response [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 448,629.00	\$ 467,573.00
WIOA State Set Aside [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 1,064,264.00	\$ 2,131,257.00
Workforce AID [State Funds]	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF) [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 5,597,364.97	\$ -
Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit [Federal, US DOL]	\$ 158,209.00	\$ 150,299.00
	\$ 25,063,783.97	\$ 18,010,710.00
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - Education & Vocational Training		
Adult Services [?]		
Inmate Benefit Fund	\$ 1,665,000.00	\$ 1,665,000.00
Kansas Correctional Industries	\$ 935,000.00	\$ 935,000.00
Title I	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
	\$ 2,630,000.00	\$ 2,630,000.00
Juvenile Services [?]		
State General Fund	\$ 2,373,000.00	\$ 2,373,000.00
Title I	\$ 137,000.00	\$ 137,000.00
	\$ 2,510,000.00	\$ 2,510,000.00
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES		
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) [Federal HHS]	\$ 196,742.00	\$ 313,253.00 *
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) [Federal HHS]	\$ 3,653,822.00	\$ 2,830,291.00 *
Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) [Federal US DOL]		
* (Amounts are for 2017 and 2018 - 2019 not available)		
WIOA TITLE II Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) [Federal: US DOL]		
Adult Education State Funds	\$ 1,398,750.00	\$ 1,435,305.00
Federal Title II	\$ 3,871,270.00	\$ 4,044,623.00
	\$ 5,270,020.00	\$ 5,479,928.00
<u>Local</u>		
WIOA TITLE I - LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS / [Federal: US DOL]		
Local Area I - Western Kansas (WorkforceOne)		
Adult	\$ 348,800.00	\$ 288,602.00
Dislocated Worker	\$ 398,840.00	\$ 366,621.00
Youth	\$ 404,336.00	\$ 342,503.00
	\$ 1,151,976.00	\$ 997,726.00
Local Area II - Topeka Area (Heartland Works)		
Adult	\$ 581,321.00	\$ 482,413.00

Dislocated Worker	\$ 508,085.00	\$ 488,471.00
Youth	\$ 880,463.00	\$ 735,714.00
	<u>\$ 1,969,869.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,706,598.00</u>
Local Area III - Kansas City Area (Workforce Partnership)		
Adult	\$ 991,269.00	\$ 1,169,983.00
Dislocated Worker	\$ 1,117,723.00	\$ 1,327,857.00
Youth	\$ 1,067,009.00	\$ 1,291,633.00
	<u>\$ 3,176,001.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,789,473.00</u>
Local Area IV - South Central Kansas (Workforce Alliance)		
Adult	\$ 838,771.00	\$ 708,235.00
Dislocated Worker	\$ 761,087.00	\$ 635,676.00
Youth	\$ 921,736.00	\$ 769,013.00
	<u>\$ 2,521,594.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,112,924.00</u>
Local Area V - Western Kansas (Southeast Kansas Works)		
Adult	\$ 796,639.00	\$ 687,708.00
Dislocated Worker	\$ 635,166.00	\$ 645,440.00
Youth	\$ 960,471.00	\$ 822,246.00
	<u>\$ 2,392,276.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,155,394.00</u>
	\$ 11,211,716.00	\$ 10,762,115.00

Totals
Federal
State
TOTAL

Program Summaries

CRIS – Common Information System – Agreement between America’s Job Link (AJL) and US DOL . ETA and the Kansas Department of Commerce/AJL have a Memorandum of Understanding that enables ETA's national program grantees access to wage records through the Wage Record Interchange System and the Federal Employment Data Exchange System in order to calculate the common measures. This arrangement is the Common Reporting Information System (CRIS).

Foreign Labor Certification –

The Kansas Department of Commerce receives funding from the USDOL to administer the Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) program. Commerce provides the following services for employers having difficulty finding qualified U.S. workers to fill job openings:

☐ H2-A visas: H-2A visas are granted to foreign workers for temporary agricultural jobs. Commerce assists employers by posting their job orders on KANSASWORKS.com to assist them in recruiting U.S. workers. During the recruitment process, it is the responsibility of Wagner-Peyser staff to conduct pre-occupancy safety and suitability inspections whenever the employer furnishes housing.

☐ H-2B visas: H-2B visas are granted to foreign workers for temporary low-skilled non- agricultural jobs such as construction, landscaping, painting, remodeling, and roofing. Commerce assists employers by posting their job orders on KANSASWORKS. If the recruitment process reveals no U.S. workers are available or willing to take the job, the Foreign Labor National Office provides the employer a certification permitting them to bring foreign workers into the state.

Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Project (KHPOP)

Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Project (KHPOP) provides education, training and employment in the healthcare sector to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients, and other low-income individuals. Besides offering an improved quality of life through education, these services will also reduce healthcare labor shortages, as well as reduce the number of individuals on public assistance in Kansas.

KANSAS INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (KIT)

The Kansas Industrial Training (KIT) program is designed to assist firms involved in “net new job” creation. Firms must show they are creating at least one net new job in the State of Kansas. For new companies, any job that is created in Kansas is a “net new job.” For expanding companies, a “net new job” is any job that is created over and above the employee base, which is determined by calculating the average number of permanent full- and part-time employees over the preceding 12 months. Firms that are creating new jobs that do not satisfy the “net new job” requirement may qualify for assistance, subject to approval from the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce.

KANSAS INDUSTRIAL RETRAINING (KIR)

The Kansas Industrial Retraining (KIR) program is designed to assist companies who are restructuring or retraining their workforce. Firms must show they are restructuring their business operations or retraining their workforce due to one or more of the following: - Incorporation of existing technology (unable to pay for training associated with upgrades to existing technology) - Development and incorporation of new technology (unable to pay for training associated with upgrades to existing technology) - Diversification of production - Development and implementation of new production.

A company must show that employees to be trained are likely to be displaced because of obsolete or inadequate job skills and knowledge. A company must retrain at least one existing position. Training plan must be concurrent with project start date.

One-Stop Grant (LMI/UI) --- This is a “pass through” grant from Commerce to KDOL Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant – Labor Market Information (LMI)

Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) -

The Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program is a federal grant program designed to allow states to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming reemployed.

The RESEA program focuses on the following primary strategies:

- Conducting in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments
- Providing customized reemployment services that are tailored to each claimant’s needs

Retaining Employment and Talent after Injury/Illness Network (RETAIN), Demonstration Project –

A partnership with the Kansas Department of Commerce, Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and the Susan B. Allen (SBA) Hospital System in Butler County. The project will address the current disability culture in health care delivery systems, employment services systems and places of work by establishing a coordinated set of practices in each system to focus on the continual employment of individuals who suffer a potentially debilitating illness or injury.

The primary goals of the RETAIN Demonstration Projects are:

- To increase employment retention and labor force participation of individuals who acquire, and/or are at risk of developing disabilities that inhibit their ability to work; and
- To reduce long-term work absences among project participants, including the need for Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income.

Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is a community service and work-based job training program for older Americans. Authorized by the Older Americans Act, the program provides training for low-income, unemployed seniors. Participants also have access to employment assistance through American Job Centers.

SCSEP participants gain work experience in a variety of community service activities at non-profit and public facilities, including schools, hospitals, day-care centers, and senior centers. Participants work an average of 20 hours a week, and are paid the highest of federal, state or local minimum wage. This training serves as a bridge to unsubsidized employment opportunities for participants. Participants must be at least 55, unemployed, and have a family income of no more than 125% of the federal poverty level. Enrollment priority is given to veterans and qualified spouses, then to individuals who are over 65, have a disability, have low literacy skills or limited English proficiency, reside in a rural area, are homeless or at risk of homelessness, have low employment prospects, or have failed to find employment.

Services are currently provided by the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas, Local Area IV

Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) -

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program provides reemployment services to U.S. workers who have lost their job as a result of foreign trade. Worker groups are identified within a certified TAA Petition. The TAA program provides trade-affected workers an opportunity to update their skills by enrolling in training, which increases their marketability for the ever-changing competitive workforce. In addition to reemployment services provided through the Workforce Centers they receive individualized assistance from TAA case managers who provide in-depth benefit details, enroll them in services and provide counseling and assistance throughout their TAA enrollment.

In addition to training benefits, workers may be eligible for income support in the form of Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) while attending full time TAA approved training, job search and relocation reimbursement, wage subsidy assistance (Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance, RTAA) and a Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC). Workers must apply for and meet requirements for each benefit.

Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) –

The Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program provides federal funding, through a formula grant, to 54 State Workforce Agencies to hire dedicated staff to provide individualized career and training-related services to veterans and eligible persons with significant barriers to employment and to assist employers fill their workforce needs with job-seeking veterans.

Wagner-Peyser / Employment Services –

The Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 established a nationwide system of public employment offices known as the Employment Service (ES). Employment Service focuses on providing a variety of employment related labor exchange services including but not limited to job search assistance, job referral, and placement assistance for job seekers, re-employment services to unemployment insurance claimants, and recruitment services to employers with job openings. Services are delivered in one of three modes including self-service, facilitated self-help services and staff assisted service delivery approaches. Depending on the needs of the labor market other services such as job seeker assessment of skill levels, abilities and aptitudes, career guidance when appropriate, job search workshops and referral to training may be available. The services offered to employers, in addition to referral of job seekers to available job openings, include assistance in development of job order requirements, matching job seeker experience with job requirements, skills and other attributes, assisting employers with special recruitment needs, arranging for Job Fairs, assisting employers analyze hard-to-fill job orders, assisting with job restructuring and helping employers deal with layoffs.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Rapid Response –

Rapid Response is a pro-active business-focused and flexible strategy designed to respond to layoffs and plant closings by quickly coordinating services and providing immediate aid to companies and their affected workers. Rapid Response services are available regardless of the size of the company impacted. The state Rapid Response Coordinator works closely with the five-local area Rapid Response Coordinators to contact the companies, ensure timely response, and provide the best services possible to assist the workers in making a smooth transition to new employment.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Set-Aside –

WIOA allows States to reserve some state funds to support state-funded projects. In KS this amounts to 15% of the States total WIOA allocation. Historically, these funds have supported the implementation of career pathways, bridge programs, sector initiatives, and other innovative workforce approaches. As states develop strategies for ensuring that the WIOA system promotes access to employment, education, training, and support services for jobseekers facing barriers to employment. Funds can be used to implement initiatives that build on evidence-based and promising practices to serve jobseekers facing barriers through underutilized strategies; to serve populations who have historically made up a smaller share of the overall population served by the public workforce system; and/or to partner strategically with other public systems to maximize available employment and support services on behalf of jobseekers facing barriers. Current uses include but are not limited to; Grant/Program Administration, Program Monitoring/oversite, KANSASWORKS.com, KANSASWORKS State Board and State Board strategies, Customer Service strategies, Technology Enhancements, Rural Community Outreach initiatives, Outreach/Education initiatives, KS Kansas Juvenile Justice Project, Underserved Youth Employment/Skills project, and Re-Entry.

Workforce AID (Aligned with Industry Demand) –

Workforce AID is a workforce training solution that supports the Governor's economic strategic plan for Kansas, with a focus on providing skilled talent for employers and growing jobs. Using short term highly focused training programs resulting in college credit and industry-recognized credentials, Workforce AID finds, trains and delivers Kansas employers a skilled, certified workforce – right training, right job, NOW. Employers design training programs that expose participants to a wide variety of entry level skills identified by employers in a specific industry sector, with an early and ongoing connection between employers and employees. Employers lead the selection process for candidates that meet company qualifications, resulting in cost savings by training only those candidates with a contingent job offer. Workforce AID projects are operated as a public/private partnership, with employer confidence in the program so high they are committing 50% of the training costs. This innovative initiative is led by the Kansas Department of Commerce in partnership with the Kansas Board of Regents.

Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF) – Grant Initiative ends September 30, 2019

Commerce was awarded a federal Workforce Innovation Fund grant and has used the funds for three distinct purposes:

1) Build on the partnership developed through the Workforce Data Quality Initiative to build a user-friendly portal to workforce services information including Labor Market Information, Postsecondary Education programs including employment outcomes of graduates and costs of programs, access to partner program information such as Vocational Rehabilitation eligibility, services and outcomes and Adult Education services and outcomes.

2) Develop and deliver cross-system training for staff in each of the WIOA Core programs and other partners

3) Fund on-the-job training for individuals with significant barriers to employment

The project has also undergone a rigorous third-party evaluation to develop best practices for the workforce development community. The independent evaluation team will also complete an implementation study to assist Commerce with determining project execution capacity for use with future fund and program development activities.

Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) –

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program (WOTC) encourages the hiring of targeted employees so they move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income and become contributing taxpayers.

Participating employers receive compensation by reducing their federal income tax liability. Commerce receives funding from USDOL to carry out WOTC operational and program activities.