

The Latest News From Washington



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Appropriations

- It is the issue that Congress must resolve (at least temporarily) before the election or face a government shutdown.
- The House Appropriations Committee has weighed in with large cuts in dozens of programs but getting them passed by full House or agreed to by Senate is a daunting task.



SHOW ME THE MONEY

WIOA	FY 24 Final Omnibus	FY25 President's Request	FY25 House Committee	FY25 Senate Committee
Adult Training	\$ 885,649	\$ 885,649	\$ 885,649	\$ 885,649
Dislocated Worker	1,095,553	1,095,553	1,095,553	1,095,553
Youth Activities	948,130	948,130	-0-	948,130
National Reserve	300,859	277,859	325,859	302,859
Apprenticeship	285,000	335,000	150,000	290,000
SCSEP	405,000	405,000	-0-	405,000
Reentry	115,000	120,000	60	115,000
ES Grants to States	675,052	680,052	675,052	675,052
RESEA	382,000	388,000	116,000	388,000
Job Corps	1,760,155	1,764,376	1,760,155	1,760,155
Native American	60,000	60,000	65,000	60,000
Migrant/SFW	97,396	97,396	97,396	97,396

A PROCESS THAT CAN GO ON AND ON

Funding/Appropriations

- Continuing Resolution (CR) passed keeping government open till December 20.
- Possible Deal in November or December; however, depending on election results, year-long spending could be kicked into next year's Congress.
- PY 24 funding (current) is settled but funding for PY25 (July 1, 2025) will depend on a final funding package for the federal government.

WIOA REAUTHORIZATION



Timeline for Passing WIOA Reauthorization

- House passed A Stronger Workforce for America Act (ASWA) by a vote of 378-26 on April 9
- House Republicans pushed for Senate action. Ranking member Sen. Cassidy (R-LA) became a proponent for moving a bill and Senators Kaine (D-VA) and Hickenlooper (D-CO) added support on training issues.
- Senate staff issued a “discussion draft” proposal on June 21st. The draft differed in many ways from the House bill. Feedback closed July 5th and staff have reviewed these comments and continued to engage in discussions with interest groups.
- Time running out to craft a bill and gain agreement between the House and Senate.
- Some advocates believe that a bi-partisan compromise will emerge from staff-level discussions and go directly to the floors of the House and Senate. Under this scenario there would not be an open Senate bill and little room for discussion and amendment.
- Negotiations broke down recently but staff are said to still be trying for a deal. Pundits range from 75% to 30% as to whether new legislation will emerge by the end of the year.

WIOA Policy Trends to Watch

Some Top Issues Where Compromise is Possible

- Greater flexibility for the One-Stop Career Center System.
- Emphasis on WBL/ITA training & placement into training-related jobs.
- Expanded authority for governors to reorganize the local workforce area map and retain more funds for specific training programs.
- Modifications to the ETPL making training outcomes more transparent for staff and customers.
- Increased opportunity to serve incumbent workers.
- Emphasis on sector strategies and high-growth, skill-shortage jobs.
- A few states and locals allowed to test block grant approaches.

Meanwhile, Other Policies Impacting Workforce

TANF NPRM

- Would establish a ceiling for “needy” families at or below 200% FPL
 - Impact on some youth WEX programs
 - Might increase training resources

TANF Pilot Program

- HHS authorized to allow five states to operate pilot programs testing alternative performance systems based on placement, retention and wage growth factors to measure performance for TANF work programs.

HUD

- Issued NPRM that will make it easier to provide workforce support with CDBG grants

Commerce

- Good Jobs challenge

Industrial Policy?

- ARPA, CHIPS, Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, Inflation Reduction Act (energy and climate)

