

# COVID-19 Disaster Relief Employment & Training Grant Program

In partnership with the CT Dept. of Labor, the Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board (EWIB) received a COVID-19 Disaster Relief Worker grant from the US Dept. of Labor. This grant, available through June 2021, will provide funding to certain employers to hire disaster relief workers.

## The Program Reimburses:

- Wages and fringe benefits (fringe capped at 30% of wages)
- Up to 40 hours per week (average 3-9 months)
- PPE expenses for participants

## Disaster Relief jobs/duties include:

- Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting public facilities
- Delivering medicine, food or other supplies to quarantined individuals and vulnerable populations
- Healthcare support jobs such as CNA, home health aide, pharmacy tech and dietary aide.



## Does every new hire qualify?

No. Potential hires must first qualify for and be enrolled in the COVID-19 Disaster Relief Employment & Training Grant Program.

Eligible participants must be dislocated workers, i.e., workers who were laid-off due to the pandemic, self-employed individuals who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the disaster, and long-term unemployed individuals.

Screening will be done by American Job Center (AJC) staff. This will include an assessment of participants' work readiness skills and occupational skills. Staff will determine those that have transferrable skills that will allow them to effectively perform an available disaster-relief job and those that will require work readiness and/or occupations skills training before job placement.

## Safety Training provided

All participants must complete online Safety Training (2 hours/day for 2-3 days) BEFORE they can start the job.

## Where will these new hires come from?

Referrals can come from the employer or we may be able to refer screened candidates to you.

**A contract must be in place  
BEFORE a new hire starts.**

## Do I need to retain the employee after the grant period expires?

No, there is no obligation to retain the employee permanently, although that is certainly one of the program's goals.

## How do I receive my reimbursement?

You will submit monthly invoices (with proof of payroll) and evaluations to the EWIB for reimbursement.

## How do I get started?

**Contact your Business Services Representative:**

**Linda Riquier** 959-444-0198, [lriquier@qvcc.edu](mailto:lriquier@qvcc.edu) (Willimantic/Danielson area)

**Tracy Tremblay** 860-941-6234, [ttremblay@chamberect.com](mailto:ttremblay@chamberect.com) (Norwich/New London area)

**Tim Murney** 860-235-7346, [tmurney@tvcca.org](mailto:tmurney@tvcca.org)



**About the EWIB** The Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board (EWIB) is a non-profit agency mandated through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. The EWIB oversees many workforce-related programs and agencies funded from a variety of sources, including the operation of three regional American Job Centers located in Montville, Danielson, and Willimantic.

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