

**Department of Labor and Workforce Development
FY23 Mid-Year Status Report**

Item #	Approp / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Comment	LFD Questions	Agency Comments
1	Various	Provide Training Opportunities to Alaskans Impacted by COVID-19 (FY23-FY24)	\$7,400.0 Gen Fund (UGF)	<p>The Governor proposed \$10 million of Coronavirus State and Local Relief Funds to be granted out for training opportunities to Alaskans. The legislature changed the fund source to UGF and split the funding among various appropriations/allocations. Approved funding is enacted for the following purposes:</p> <p>Commissioner and Administrative Services / Workforce Investment Board: Construction Academies - \$1,800.0 (\$2,600.0 was vetoed)</p> <p>Employment and Training Services / Workforce Services: Individual Training Accounts - \$1,000.0</p> <p>Employment and Training Services / Workforce Development: State Training and Employment Program (STEP) Grants - \$4,600.0</p>	Please provide an update on these three efforts: has the funding been expended? Have training opportunities been increased?	The use of ITA above is a misnomer. ITAs are a terminology specific to a federal funding source and administered by the Division of Employment and Training Services. Those accounts are used to help individuals seek work or start work by purchasing things like work boots, reflective gear, temp housing while training, etc. That term should not be conflated with the \$1,000.0 added above, which was intended to fund training for individuals. Senate Finance chose to insert that language late in the budget process and we did not have an opportunity to correct it. We are hopeful to correct the language with a supplemental, but that is TBD. All 3 of the bullets above are multi-year appropriations and we at about 7 months into 24. These funds are not fully expended as the intent is to get enough new trainees in the pipeline to leverage all these funds. I can confirm we have committed \$305.0 of the \$1,000.0 for individual training so far. We have granted approximately \$1,600.0 of the additional \$4,600.0 STEP funds.

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FY23 Mid-Year Status Report**

						<p>continued</p> <p>None of the \$1,800.0 to the Alaska Construction Academy (through AWIB) has been committed so far. The answer to “Have training opportunities increased?” - is most certainly. Typically, of the \$6-7 million in STEP grant applications, we aren’t able to award to all. This year, no qualified STEP application went unfulfilled. In addition, the \$305.0 I mentioned above is being used to train 28 individuals at the Delta Mine Training Center.</p>
2	Employment and Training Services / Unemployment Insurance	One-time Federal Auth for COVID-Related UI Benefit Payments, Associated Administrative Costs and System Maintenance	\$10,000.0 Fed Rcpts (Fed) Numbers	Open-ended federal receipt authority was added to the unemployment insurance allocation in sec. 61(e), ch. 1, SLA 2021 for the purposes of making unemployment insurance benefit payments. This authority will allow the department to continue making COVID-related unemployment insurance (UI) benefit payments, bill associated administrative costs and perform necessary UI system maintenance.	Please provide an update on this funding. Has the allocation been expended? What has this been used for over the last year? Was this funding sufficient to meet UI obligations?	This funding was part of step down authority from the unlimited pandemic allocation. Last year, Sabrina Javier told us the Legislature was not interested in allowing this authority to remain unlimited. As we were unsure of potential expenditures that were “leftover” from pandemic activities, this amount was thought to be sufficient for FY23 operations. Indeed, the allocation is adequate and is keeping operations healthy for this fiscal year. However, it was a one time amount based on uncertainty. As you previously asked about, we are refining the number based on reality, and DETS is only asking for \$6,378.1 in FY24. A step down of another \$3.6 million approximately from FY23. That new lowest federal authority amount should be adequate for ongoing operations in UI.

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FY23 Mid-Year Status Report**

3	Various	DLWD Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) Funding	\$7,570.6 VoTech Ed (DGF)	<p>The legislature increased TVEP authority in DLWD by \$999.7 above the Governor's request. The FY23 TVEP distribution for DLWD includes:</p> <p>Alaska Technical Center (9%): \$1,233.5 Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (3%): \$411.2 Yuut Elitnaurviat, Inc. People's Learning Center (9%): \$1,233.5 Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (3%): \$411.2 Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. (3%): \$411.2 Amundsen Educational Center (2%): \$274.1 Ilisagvik College (5%): 685.3 Alaska Vocational Technical Center (17%): \$2,339.9</p>	Has this allocation been expended? Please provide an update on the impact of these funds.	These funds are allocated per statute. HB100 is the most recent authorization of this program. The grantees, and the percentages are not discretionary or awarded by DOLWD. We simply estimate the revenue, calculate the withholding for admin, and report the amounts for distribution. The allocations have not been fully expended as we are only a little over halfway through the program year. During reconciliation, any remaining funds are swept back each year.
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