

COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo County WIOA Program Approved for Underserved Individuals Impacted by COVID-19 Funding

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Workforce Innovation Board (WIB) and Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program has been recently awarded \$270,000 for the WIOA Dislocated Worker Funds for Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individuals (NWDG) from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) and the Labor & Workforce Development Agency.

The County's WIB and WIOA program has a unique plan to assist individuals by using the funds to provide supportive services to underserved populations, particularly participants in the English Language Learners (ELL) and ELL Navigator programs. The additional assistance funds will provide up to \$800 per person for basic needs such as childcare, housing and utility assistance, and transportation costs. In addition, funding assistance for equipment needed for teleworking along with digital services for Wi-Fi access may be available for workers in some areas. This is the result of <u>initiatives Governor Gavin Newsom announced in April</u> to support California's workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Individuals must meet all the <u>eligibility requirements</u> including: working as a caregiver for someone who is subject to quarantine, needing to care for children because of school closure or closure of other child care provider, being at higher risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19, or living with someone who is higher risk, as outlined on the California Department of Public Health COVID-19 website or required to telework, but does not have the necessary equipment for supportive services assistance.

Supportive services are available in two tiers:

- Individuals receiving at least 50% of their previous wages either from their employer directly or Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit payments, may receive supportive services totaling \$400.
- Individuals who are not receiving at least 50% of their wages from their employer directly, or UI benefit payments may receive supportive services totaling \$800.

More information on the program can be found at the program's <u>FAQs</u>. Individuals can apply by calling: (530) 661-2710 or (916) 375-6331 and leaving a voicemail with contact information and

staff will reply within 24 hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.). Individuals can also be connected to a WIOA Case Manager by emailing: <u>WIOAprogram@yolocounty.org</u>.

The WIOA Dislocated Worker Funds for Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individuals (NWDG) is available through September 30, 2020 or sooner based on approved individuals. For WIOA Dislocated Worker Funds for Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individuals (NWDG) information please visit: yoloworks.org.

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