



**Advance
Central PA**
Linking People & Business

Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Local Elected Official (LEO) Board Joint Meeting

September 16, 2026

Union County Government Center
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

Advance Central PA is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Program funded with federal dollars. For more information, visit: <https://AdvanceCentralPA.org/about-us/public-notices>.

Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Local Elected Official (LEO) Board Meeting

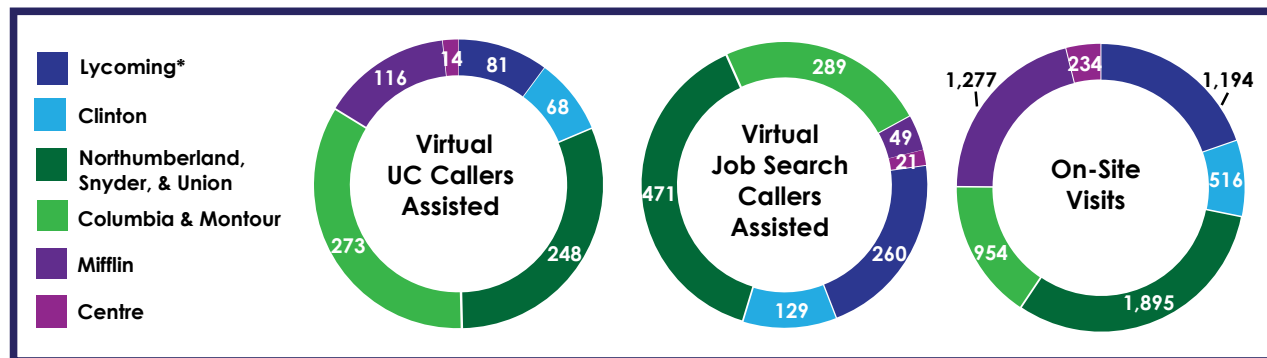
Agenda

Union County Government Center, Lewisburg
Wednesday, September 16, 2026 10:00 a.m.

- | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Call to Order, Welcome, and Introduction of Guests | Jonah Howe & Rob Postal |
| 10:10 – 10:15 | Public Comment | |
| 10:15 – 10:25 | PA CareerLink® Day Update | Matthew Rickert & Rachael Ulmer |
| 10:25 – 10:45 | Wired for Success Presentation | Allison Grose & Gabi Randall |
| 10:45 – 11:40 | WDB and LEO Board Action Items | Jonah Howe & Rob Postal |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDB Non-Consent Agenda & Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Action Needed: Approval of Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Audit/Finance ○ EARN ○ Governance ○ Personnel – Action Needed: Renewal of Health Insurance ○ Policy & Performance ○ Youth • LEO Board Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Action Needed: Approval of June 17, 2026 meeting minutes | |
| 11:40 – 11:50 | Executive Director's Update | Erica Mulberger |
| 11:50 – 11:55 | Open Discussion | |
| 11:55 | Date of Next Meeting | Jonah Howe |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Committee – October 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. • LEO Board Meeting – December 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. • WDB/LEO Board Joint Meeting – December 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | |
| 12:00 | Adjournment | Jonah Howe & Rob Postal |

PA CareerLink® Jobseeker Services

April - June 2026 Q2

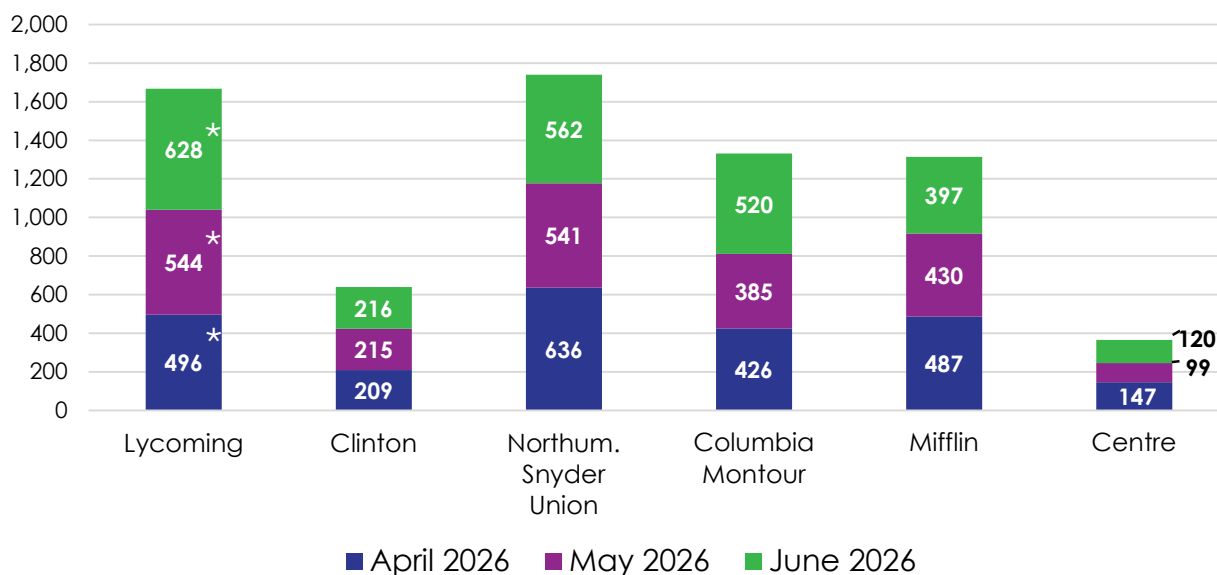


Includes on-site and virtual services

Total Workshops Offered: 78
Total Workshop Attendance: 915
Total Services Provided: 31,346
Unique Quarterly Participants: 5,250

Includes on-site and virtual services

Total Unique Participants Served By Month



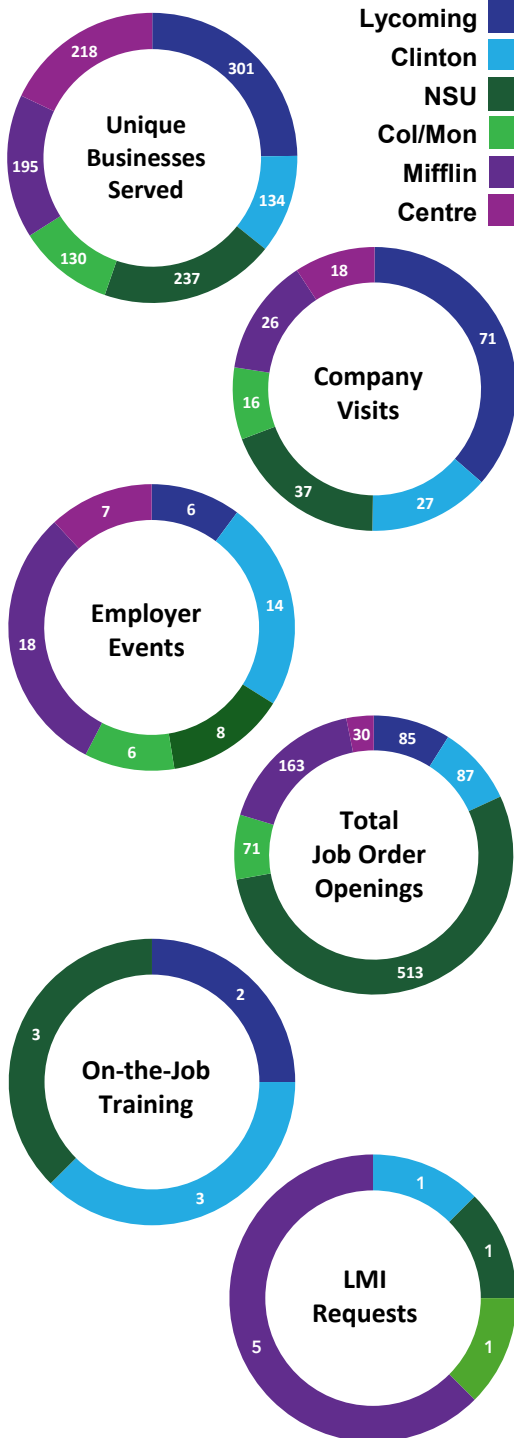
*Note: PA CareerLink® Lycoming County's physical location was closed for several days during the quarter due to building maintenance. To ensure continuity of services, staff provided off-site, in-person services on 14 days across April and June, and virtual services on 7.5 days across April, May, and June. As a result, this temporary change in service delivery affected both on-site and virtual service figures reported for the quarter.

PA CareerLink® Business Solutions

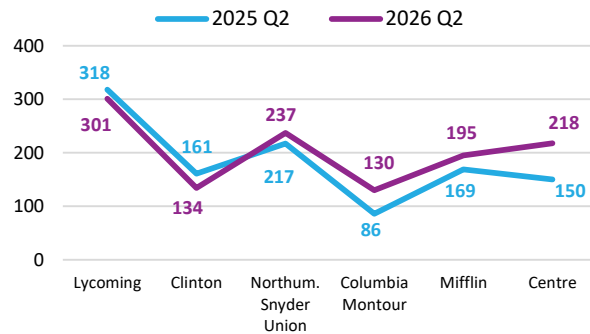
Q2 2026: April - June

Employer Services Overview

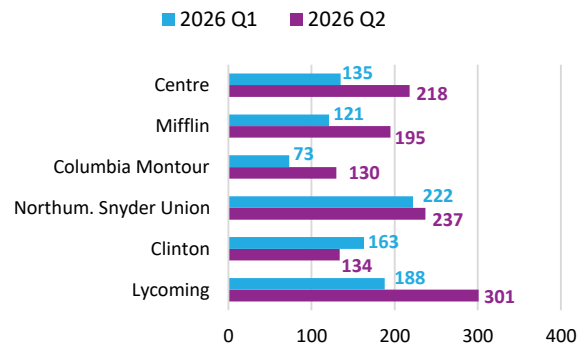
Business Services Highlights



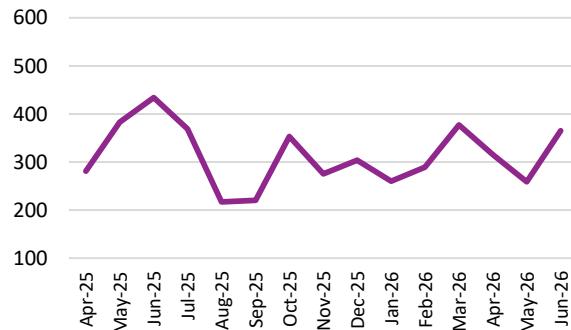
Businesses Served: Annual Comparison



Businesses Served: Quarter Comparison



Staff-Assisted Job Openings Posted



Top 3 Industries Served

1. Manufacturing
2. Health Care and Social Assistance
3. Construction

Based on total services provided

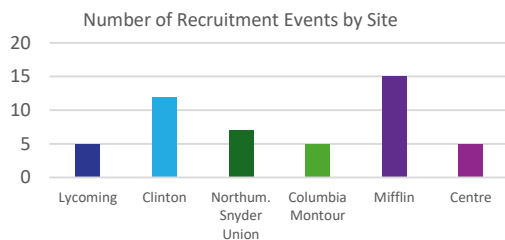
PA CareerLink® Business Solutions

Q2 2026: April - June

Employer Event Highlights

Hiring Events

49 on-site recruitment events served 149 employers and 647 jobseekers.



Job Fair Events

6 job fairs connected 341 employers with 769 jobseekers and 35 youth.

Highlights included:

- 58 employers completed the 30-day follow-up survey
- Interviews as a direct result of event: 80
- Hires as a direct result of event: 32

Employer Seminars

3 regional employer seminars were attended by 47 total employers.

Topics included:

- Employment Law Updates
- AI at Work: What to Use, What to Avoid, and Why it Matters
- Workplace Mental Health

Student Events

2 student events occurred connecting 130 employers with 172 youth.

Events included:

- 35 students attended the Centre County Spring Job Fair
- 137 students attended Central Mountain High School's Student Financial Reality Fair

Rapid Response Events

Company	Merck	Post Consumer Brands
PA CareerLink® County	Northumberland/Snyder/Union	Columbia/Montour
Rapid Response Date	4/2/2026	6/2/2026 and 6/4/2026
Workers Affected	163	97
Workers at RR Event	45	59
Layoff/Closure	Closure	Layoff
Status	Permanent	Permanent

Workforce Development Board Consent Agenda

Action Items

September 16, 2026

1. Motion to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2026 joint WDB/LEO Board meeting.

Executive Committee • Jonah Howe, Chair

The following motions were unanimously approved with no abstentions by a quorum of the Executive Committee during a meeting held August 14, 2026.

2. Motion to negotiate and award a contract for the TANF Youth Development In-School Youth program to Central Susquehanna Opportunities for the nine counties of the Central Region from September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, with a budget of \$595,000, and an option to extend funding annually for up to three years through August 30, 2030.
3. Motion to approve a 2-year lease renewal with American Philatelic Research Library for the PA CareerLink® Centre County site located at 240 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA effective October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2028 at a rent amount of \$4,207.01 per month.
4. Motion to approve the new Advance Central PA Policy on Policies as presented.
5. Motion to approve revisions to the Advance Central PA Monitoring Policy as presented.
6. Motion to approve revisions to the Advance Central PA WIOA Title I Program Complaint Policy & Procedures as presented for submittal to the PA Department of Labor & Industry (L&I) for review, directing staff to apply any additional edits required by L&I for implementation.
7. Motion to approve a new PA CareerLink® Code of Conduct Policy as presented with additional stipulations and edits as discussed.
8. Motion to award The Link contract to Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. for October 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$115,269 with the option to extend up to three additional years.

Workforce Development Board Non-Consent Agenda Action Items September 16, 2026

1. Motion to approve the September 16, 2026 Consent Agenda Action Items.

Motion:

Second:

Audit/Finance Committee • Vacant, Chair

The Audit/Finance Committee will meet as necessary.

EARN Committee • Kenneth Chappell, Chair

The EARN Committee will meet as necessary.

Governance Committee • Vacant, Chair

The Governance Committee will meet as necessary.

Personnel Committee • Shelly Foust, Chair

- Action Needed: Healthcare renewal

The Personnel Committee will meet as necessary.

Policy and Performance Committee • Jim Beamer, Chair

- Action Needed: PY26 and PY 27 WIOA Common Measures

The Policy and Performance Committee will meet as necessary.

Youth Committee • Jon Ritter, Chair

The next Youth Committee meeting will be held on November 10th.

Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Local Elected Officials (LEO Board)

Joint Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

Advance Central PA's Workforce Development Board (WDB) and Local Elected Official (LEO) Board held a joint meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at the Union County Government Center in Lewisburg, PA.

WDB Members Attending

Jay Alexander
Jamie Aurand
Jim Beamer
Kenneth Chappell
Misty Dion
Michele Foust
Beth Gilmore
Jonah Howe
Bruce Jones
Jonathan Ritter
Stephanie Servose
Steve Stumbris
Todd Taylor
Jenna Witherite
Dave Zartman

LEO Board Members Attending

Rebecca Dressler
Angela Harding
David Kovach
Mark Mussina
Robert Postal
Stacy Richards
Chuck Steininger

WDB Staff Attending

Jamison Bond
Brooke Gessner
Amy Keefer
Korrie Lucas
Erica Mulberger
Patrick O'Connor
Marca O'Hargan
Gabi Randall
Kelly Walter
Morgan Whitteker

Talia Beatty
Joshua Bell
Keith Koppenhaver
Lynn Kuhns
Zollie Rayner

LEO Board Members Excused

Steven Dershem
Joe Klebon

Guests Attending

Lenaire Ahlum
Melissa Corbin
Jon DeWald
Robert Getz
Denise Hurne
Michele Johnson
Jonathon Juhas
Gayle Pletcher
Michaelene Shirey
Kathy Sprecht
Devin Wells
Matthew Wise

WDB Members Excused

Call to Order and Welcome

Jonah Howe, Workforce Development Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with a quorum present.

He welcomed guests Matthew Wise from PA Senator Gene Yaw's office, Gayle Pletcher from PA Representative David Rowe's office and Melissa Corbin from PA Representative Michael Stender's office.

Jonah also noted the two quarterly meetings occurring simultaneously: the Workforce Development Board (WDB) meeting and Local Elected Official (LEO) Board meeting. Each board takes actions from their respective agendas.

Commissioner Rob Postal, LEO Chairperson, also welcomed the legislative guests to the meeting and greeted his fellow Commissioners, confirming a quorum. He announced that at the Annual Meeting of the Members that morning, the LEO board reappointed: Jim Beamer, Michele Foust, Bruce Jones, Stephanie Servose and Todd Taylor to the WDB for three-year terms. He thanked them for their service.

Invitation for Public Comments

There were none.

PA CareerLink® Operator Update

Operator Report

Bruce Jones, Pennsylvania Bureau of Workforce Partnership & Operations (BWPO) Area Regional Director, provided the quarterly update on behalf of the Operator emphasizing a focus on community outreach and event engagement, as well as excellent customer service.

Service delivery included a Rapid Response event conducted by PA CareerLink® Columbia/Montour Counties for Post Consumer Brands following a worker dislocation that impacted 97 individuals. As part of the response effort, a job fair was held featuring 11 regional employers offering rapid reemployment opportunities.

Spring job fairs were held across the region, in addition to bi-weekly hiring events, demonstrating strong employer participation and job seeker engagement. Programs provide valuable preparation opportunities for job seekers prior to direct employer interaction.

Bruce shared a success story achieved through an On-the-Job Training (OJT) for an Out-of-School Youth (OSY) participant that resulted in full-time unsubsidized employment with Lewistown Manufacturing.

Customer service continues to distinguish PA CareerLink® services from the dot-coms of the world. The Operator has prioritized consistency and quality by implementing a customer service protocol outlining best practices and expectations for staff regionally. A customer experience survey has been introduced across all sites to assess customer perceptions and gather actionable feedback, with early results beginning to inform continuous improvement efforts.

PA CareerLink® Lycoming experienced water damage resulting in a temporary office closure from mid-April through early May. Staff demonstrated resilience by continuing to provide quality services while operating from multiple locations. A new site has been secured by the WDB, with relocation efforts ongoing through July.

Bruce closed his report by thanking the two Site Administrators, Rachael Ulmer and Jamison Bond, who have stepped up to each take responsibility for three sites and to work with program supervisors who have stepped up as well.

Erica Mulberger, Advance Central PA, Executive Director noted that PA CareerLink® sites host two annual job fairs in addition to ongoing hiring events each month. Pre and post event surveys are being refined and utilized to assess hiring outcomes, with collaborative efforts underway to standardize this process statewide.

Gayle Pletcher and Commissioner Postal each commented on the events noting they are well organized and effective, with participation from local employers and partners.

FY27 Budget Presentation

Brooke Gessner, Advance Central PA Finance Manager, provided a detailed presentation of the proposed fiscal year 2027 (FY27) budget, including the Advance Central PA FY27 Operating Budget and the overall FY27 Central Region Operating Budget. She explained the budgeting process was guided by current known factors while planning for anticipated needs with flexibility to adapt to changing service delivery requirements as they arise.

Brooke reviewed projected revenues for FY27, specifically highlighting the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I allocations. She reminded members that FY26 saw a \$921,000 reduction while FY27 will see a slight increase over FY26 at approximately \$47,000. This breaks down to an increase of 2.49% for Adult, a 3.17% decrease in Dislocated Worker, and an increase of 4.56% for Youth.

Overall, revenue is decreased by approximately \$1 million from FY26 to FY27 due to reduced carryover funds and the expiration of several competitive grant awards. Total revenue decline is 14.53%, requiring continued prudent fiscal management and a strategic focus on maintaining direct service delivery. In alignment with this, the Advance Central PA Operating Budget has a decrease of 4.9%. The PA CareerLink® Operating Budget is proposed at a 5% reduction.

Brooke reviewed the training budget which commits WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker allocations for Individual Training Accounts (ITA) and On-the-Job Training (OJT). For FY27, the proposed budget is significant at 22% of the total Adult/DW allocation, an amount necessary to meet anticipated need. In accordance with WIOA, at least 20% of the Youth allocation is dedicated to paid work experience.

Brooke concluded her presentation by reviewing proposed budgets for each of the subcontractors, including Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU), Central Susquehanna Opportunities (CSO), and Tuscarora Intermediate Unit (TIU) for each of the contracts they are responsible for carrying out.

Commissioner Postal expressed concern about the availability of carryover funding in FY27 and future years if WIOA allocations continue to decline, noting that carryover funds will eventually be exhausted. Erica agreed with his concern and also explained that Advance Central PA has historically been successful in securing competitive grant funding and will continue to pursue those opportunities, including non-federal funding sources as federal grant opportunities become more limited.

WDB Updates and Action Items

Action Items

Jonah called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

- ▲ **Todd Taylor made a motion to approve the June 17, 2026 Consent Agenda Action Items. Ken Chappell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Audit/Finance Committee

Jay Alexander, Audit/Finance Committee Chair, provided the update.

The Audit/Finance Committee met on June 9, 2026 to review the FY27 budgets.

Fiscal Year 27 Budget Approval

The Committee discussed and reviewed the budgets presented by Brooke earlier in the meeting and approved Advance Central PA's FY27 Operating Budget.

- ▲ **Jay Alexander made a motion to approve Advance Central PA's Fiscal Year 2027 Operational Budget. Shelly Foust seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

The Committee also approved Advance Central PA's FY 27 Central Region Operating Budget.

- ▲ Jay Alexander made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 2027 Central Region Budget and PA CareerLink® Operating Budgets. Dave Zartman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Jay thanked the staff for their extensive work developing the budgets.

Clinton County Lease

At their meeting, the Audit/Finance Committee also reviewed the lease options for the PA CareerLink® Clinton County and agreed with a renewal at the current location.

- ▲ Jay Alexander made a motion to approve a 3-year lease renewal with All Round LLC for the PA CareerLink® Clinton County site located at 8 North Grove Street, Lock Haven, PA effective June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2031 at a rent amount of \$2,500 per month. Jenna Witherite seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Financial Reports

The Financial Reports through 3/31/26 and the Fiscal Year 26 Budget Update Report were included and sent previously. Jay welcomed questions and there were none.

The Audit/Finance Committee will meet as needed.

EARN Committee

Ken Chappell, EARN Committee Chair, provided the update.

The EARN Committee met on June 2, 2026.

EARN Enrollment Update

Ken reported 283 new enrollments between July 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026, a decrease of 6 compared to the previous year's 289 in the same period. However, 125 of the new enrollments are SNAP Only cases up significantly from 28 total in the prior year. Cases vary by County Assistance Office and SNAP Only cases can meet engagement requirements in ways other than referrals to EARN.

EARN Statement of Work

Advance Central PA has a new EARN contract with the PA Department of Human Services and has received an updated Statement of Work. The new agreement includes revised program requirements, data entry and reporting standards, and performance and validation measures. An overview of the changes was provided to the EARN Committee, and staff training is being planned.

EARN- Supervision and Conduct of Children at PA CareerLink® Policy

The Committee reviewed the Supervision and Conduct of Children at PA CareerLink® Policy for the EARN Program. The policy was developed to address situations in which participants bring children onsite due to childcare barriers and establishes expectations to help maintain a safe and professional environment for all customers and staff. The policy outlines EARN-specific attendance and participation requirements related to noncompliance.

- ▲ Ken Chappell made a motion to approve the implementation of Advance Central PA's Supervision and Conduct of Children at the PA CareerLink® Policy for the EARN program, effective July 1, 2026. Jim Beamer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Commissioner Postal inquired whether the policy would apply only to EARN participants or more broadly across the PA CareerLink® system. Erica thanked him for the question, noting that initially, the intention was to develop the policy for EARN since they are invited to bring children on site and often do so. However, there is a need to apply the standards site-wide without the EARN-specific technical information, and staff will be bringing a draft to the Policy & Performance Committee for their feedback and review.

EARN Provider Contract Update

Advance Central PA recently completed the procurement process for EARN service delivery. Following a recommendation from the Evaluation Committee and action by the Executive Committee in May, today's Consent Agenda ratified the award of a contract to CSO for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, with the option for up to four annual extensions. Contract language will place a stronger emphasis on participant outcomes, including credential attainment and job readiness, with the goal of improving employment placement performance.

The EARN Committee will plan to meet next quarter.

Governance Committee

Dave Zartman, Governance Committee Chair, provided the update.

Outgoing WDB Members

Dave reported several WDB membership changes since the last meeting. Susan Swartz has retired, Susie Weller accepted a new position that required her to resign from the WDB, and Zollie Rayner has announced his retirement. Steven Stumbris and Talia Beatty have each chosen not to seek reappointment due to ongoing scheduling conflicts. Dave expressed appreciation to Susan, Susie, Zollie, Steve, and Talia for their service and contributions.

New WDB Members

The LEO Board filled two vacancies this morning appointing Maddy Kutz, Acting Regional Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and Amanda Craig Bradley, President and CEO of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, to the WDB filling two of the mandated membership categories (OVR and economic development). With these appointments, the WDB membership is in compliance.

Leadership

Dave asked private sector WDB members to consider serving as Vice Chair since that role is currently vacant.

Jonah offered sincere thanks to Dave for stepping up to serve as the Chair of the Governance Committee.

The Governance Committee will meet as needed.

Personnel Committee

Michelle Foust, Personnel Committee Chair, provided the update.

Staffing Updates

Shelly noted no Advance Central PA staff changes to report.

Staff continue to monitor whether the vacant PA CareerLink® Site Administrator position for Centre and Mifflin counties should be filled or if the staffing model should be adjusted from three positions to two in the future. The two current Site Administrators have shown they are able to provide leadership to all sites though the downside is less on-site time in each site. Staff will continue to keep the Board posted.

Salary Adjustments

Advance Central PA's Salary Management and Administration Policy states the salary scale should be updated annually by an amount approximate to the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Wage Earners during the past 12 months. As of May 12, 2026, that would be a 3.8% increase. Instead, the Committee has approved a COLA increase of 2%. The COLA increase and a 3% merit pool were both included in the approved budget. The budget also included a third-party compensation study to assess market alignment of Advance Central PA salaries which were last updated in 2020.

The Personnel Committee will meet as needed.

Policy & Performance Committee

Jim Beamer, Policy & Performance Committee Chair, provided the update.

Monitoring Update (March through May)

Six local monitoring cycles successfully closed including for special grants and the operations monitoring of PA CareerLink® sites. The Centre County site monitoring remains open. Annual monitoring of the One-Stop Operator and Adult/Dislocated Worker programs is underway.

The PA Dept. of Labor & Industry's Bureau of Workforce Development Administration has closed their PY24 monitoring cycle noting a recommendation to develop a formal policy that would outline the process for policy review. Their PY25 monitoring continues with final document submissions due July 15.

Common Measures PY2025 Quarter 3 Reports

Jim reported average program performance scores of 93% for Adult, 99% for Dislocated Worker, and 105% for Youth. He reminded the Committee that Measurable Skills Gains are calculated cumulatively and are not expected to reach peak performance levels until the end of the program year. Performance in the Effectiveness in Serving Employers measure was 63.8%, compared to the statewide rate of 69.6%.

PY2026 and 2027 Common Measure Negotiations

The PA Dept. of Labor & Industry has initiated negotiation of Common Measures for the next two program years, through June 30, 2028. Initial proposed performance goals are due to the Department by July 31, 2026, with final negotiated goals to be submitted by August 28, 2026.

Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs PY2025 Contract Goal Attainment

Jim reviewed program year performance through April 30, 2026. New registrations totaled 206 against an annual goal of 350. Staff are working with CSO to course correct. Training outcomes remained strong, with a 75% completion rate for ITA and OJT participants, representing 61 individuals served. Although exits with employment for both career and training services remained below target, performance improved from the prior year, with 142 participants exiting with employment compared to 128 during the same period in the prior year. Of those employed exiters, 49% secured employment paying at least \$43,242 annually, the self-sufficiency wage benchmark for a single adult with no dependents in the Central Region.

Adult/Dislocated Worker Outcomes Reports Comparison

The Adult/Dislocated Worker Exit Outcomes Report for Program Year 2025, Quarter 3, provides additional detail on participant exit outcomes. While employment remains the primary desired outcome, Jim noted that "Services Completed" is also considered a positive outcome, reflecting successful completion of planned services and participant goals.

Job Seeker Contract

The Job Seeker Services contract includes Adult and Dislocated Worker programming, delivery of basic career services, and some of the shared PA CareerLink® staff positions, including greeters. The contract was awarded to CSO for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, and includes up to three annual renewal options.

- ▲ Jim Beamer made a motion to extend the current contract for Title I Job Seeker Services with Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. in the amount of \$1,303,089 for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Bruce Jones seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

The Link Contract

The contract for The Link is due for procurement. However, additional time is needed to evaluate program data and develop a comprehensive request for proposals (RFP).

- ▲ Jim Beamer made a motion to extend the current contract for The Link with Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. in the amount of \$38,423 for the period July 1, 2026 to September 30, 2026. Beth Gilmore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Operator Contract

The current contract for One-Stop Operator was procured with a contract that began July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, and is due for annual renewal consideration.

- ▲ **Jim Beamer made a motion to extend a contract for PA CareerLink® One-Stop Operator to Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. as the lead applicant and consortium members Bureau of Workforce Partnership Operations, Penn State Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, and Private Industry Council of the Central Corridor in the amount of \$30,000 for July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Dave Zartman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention.**

Local Policies

Several policies require updates for continued improvement and to mirror changes at the state and federal level. Staff are preparing edits to propose to the Policy & Performance Committee.

The Policy and Performance Committee will meet as needed.

Youth Committee

Jon Ritter, Youth Committee Chair, provided the report.

Youth Program Updates

Jon reviewed the contract goal outcomes for the In-School Youth (ISY) program and the Out-of-School Youth (OSY) program through the third quarter of program 2025.

For ISY, he noted enrollment goals were met for comprehensive services, but were under target for specialized services, with an uptick anticipated as summer approaches. There were 56 paid work experiences completed toward a goal of 75, and 44 participants have completed Camp STEAM toward a goal of 93. Staff anticipate increased participation through summer internships, paid work experiences, additional Business Challenge activities, and recently completed Camp STEAM programming not yet reflected in the data.

OSY program performance remains steady, with 164 WIOA registrations recorded toward an annual goal of 200. Paid internship placements are currently below target, with 26 participants engaged compared to a goal of 60, largely due to limited employer capacity to host interns. OJT placements also remain below target, with 6 participants enrolled toward a goal of 12.

In-School Youth (ISY) Contract

The current In-School Youth contract expires June 30, 2026. Following a competitive procurement process, the Evaluation Committee reviewed proposals and determined that while several contained strong elements, none fully met expectations. Jon recommended reissuing the RFP with additional clarifications and extending the current contract with CSO for three months to ensure continuity of services.

- ▲ **Jon Ritter made a motion to extend the current contract for In-School Youth programming with Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. in the amount of \$170,000 funded with TANF Youth Development and Business and Education Partnership funds for the period July 1, 2026 to September 30, 2026. Jim Beamer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**
- ▲ **Jon Ritter made a motion to re-release a request for proposals for TANF Youth Development In-School Youth programming with a decision for contracting ratified by the Executive Committee for the period September 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 with annual renewal options. Dave Zartman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Out-of-School Youth (OSY) Contract

The current Out-of-School Youth contract expires June 30, 2026. Following a competitive procurement process, the Evaluation Committee recommended moving forward with contract negotiations with Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU). The recommendation was approved by the Executive Committee in April and was ratified as part of today's Consent Agenda.

Business Education Partnership Grant Update

A new Business Education Partnership grant opportunity has been released. Current grant activities and future grant priorities were discussed at the May Youth Committee meeting so that staff could be prepared to submit a proposal.

The next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for August 12.

LEO Board Action Items

- ▲ **Commissioner David Kovach made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2026 Joint WDB/LEO Board meeting. Commissioner Angela Harding seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Additionally, Commissioner Rob Postal reminded everyone that the minutes from the LEO meetings are also included in the packets; he encouraged individuals to review them to learn about the robust discussion that takes place leading up to the joint meeting.

- ▲ **Commissioner Stacy Richards made a motion to approve Advance Central PA's Fiscal Year 2027 Operational Budget. Commissioner Angela Harding seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**
- ▲ **Commissioner Stacy Richards made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 2027 Central Region Budget and PA CareerLink® Operating Budgets. Commissioner Angela Harding seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Executive Director's Update

Erica Mulberger, Advance Central PA Executive Director, presented the update.

Competitive Funding Portfolio and Future Funding Outlook

Erica reviewed the competitive funding portfolio, noting grants that had carried over into the current year that will end, others that will carry over, and new grants secured. Grants currently being explored include the Appalachian Regional Commission's Partnerships for Opportunity and Economic Revitalization (POWER) grant in partnership with DRIVE as the lead applicant. Having advanced through the first round, a portion of the proposed grant would support paid internships for college students who are not eligible for WIOA-funded work experience, with the goal of creating employment pathways that encourage participants to remain with local employers after graduation. A cash match is required.

Commissioner Richards expressed concerns about the proposed DRIVE grant, noting that the funding is regionally focused and primarily targets only coal-impacted counties versus the whole region. Erica explained that the required matching percentage varies based on coal county eligibility and that the proposal includes all nine counties. She further noted that workforce and economic benefits frequently cross county lines, and that growth in one area can positively impact the entire region. Commissioner Richards acknowledged Erica's awareness of the issue and encouraged continued attention to ensuring the funding supplements opportunities across all counties in the region.

Jenna Witherite asked when the required grant match would be determined and what types of internships would qualify under the program. Erica explained that the internships are intended to support positions within the broad range of High Priority Occupations (HPOs).

Erica also reported on the Manufacturing Training to Careers grant opportunity, which aims to help regional manufacturers develop and strengthen their talent pipeline by connecting students with manufacturing career pathways and workforce opportunities.

Labor Market Information (LMI)

Erica noted that monthly labor market data can fluctuate significantly and that annual trends often provide a more accurate picture of workforce conditions. Commissioner Postal commented that the report was valuable and highlighted data showing Pennsylvania's unemployment rate remains below the national

average. He referenced a statistic provided indicating that in April 2026, approximately 12,000 unemployed jobseekers in the Central WDA were actively seeking employment, yet more than 4,000 online job postings would remain unfilled even if each jobseeker filled a position. He noted the data raises important questions regarding workforce supply, skills gaps, training needs, and labor force participation. Commissioner Postal encouraged the WDB to review these trends over time and consider how the information can inform future workforce policies, strategies, and priorities.

There was robust discussion about the relationship between online job postings and workforce availability, including which industries have the greatest hiring demand and whether enough trained workers are available to fill those vacancies. The need for additional healthcare training opportunities was highlighted. Erica shared a key takeaway from a recent symposium, noting that training individuals solely as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) may contribute to long-term workforce attrition in healthcare due to burnout. Instead, it was suggested that healthcare training should focus on more opportunities for advancement and career pathways within the industry.

Erica also drew attention to the region's total civilian workforce, noting that it has declined by approximately 20,000 workers during her 15 years with the organization. Commissioner Richards referenced the region's aging population and questioned whether there was a group assigned to examine long-term workforce and economic development trends, acknowledging that Advance Central PA cannot address every challenge alone. Erica shared the ongoing work of the Heartland Partnership group, which meets quarterly to examine regional trends, coordinate strategies, and identify collaborative opportunities. The group is working together to ensure partners are aligned on priorities so they can pursue grant opportunities strategically and avoid competing against one another for resources the region needs.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Re-Authorization

There is nothing significant to report regarding re-authorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) since the last meeting. Erica will keep the WDB and LEO Board apprised as information is known.

OMB Circular – Proposed Changes

Proposed changes to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular are currently open for public comment and could have significant implications for nonprofit organizations and Local Elected Official (LEO) board members that receive federal funding. Erica explained that the proposed changes would require federal grant recipients to obtain prior approval from the granting agency before spending funds and could place additional restrictions on communications with constituents, with some activities potentially being interpreted as lobbying. Proposed changes could negatively impact participation in conferences and other federally funded activities due to expanded prior approval requirements. She encouraged WDB and LEO Board members to be aware of the proposal and its potential impact, noting that several states may challenge the changes if adopted, citing concerns about federal overreach.

Business and Education Partnership (BEP) Grants

Erica revisited the upcoming BEP grant application Jon Ritter spoke about and shared examples of previously funded initiatives, including *Dinner and Desserts* and *What's So Cool About Manufacturing?*. She emphasized that Advance Central PA is seeking input from Board members and local employers on innovative ways to engage K-12 students in career awareness. Misty Dion expressed interest in collaborating on efforts and indicated she would like to discuss potential partnership and initiatives.

Open Discussion

Erica thanked outgoing WDB members for their commitment and service.

Commissioner Angela Harding introduced her student intern, Devon Wells, a participant in the ISY Bridges to the Future program. She encouraged Board members and employers to engage with the PA CareerLink® system and take advantage of its programs and services, noting the value these resources provide to young people, job seekers, and businesses throughout the region.

Date of Next Meetings

Upcoming meetings are as follows:

- Executive Committee – August 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
- LEO Board Meeting – September 16, 2026, 9:00 a.m.
- LEO/WDB Joint Board Meeting – September 16, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to attend to, Commissioner Robert Postal then Jonah Howe adjourned the LEO Board and WDB meetings at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Walter, Office/Board Coordinator

Local Elected Officials (LEO Board)

Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

The Local Elected Official (LEO) Board of Advance Central PA held a meeting Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at the Union County Government Center in Lewisburg, PA.

LEO Board Members Attending

Commissioner Rebecca Dressler, Montour County
Commissioner Angela Harding, Clinton County
Commissioner David Kovach, Columbia County
Commissioner Mark Mussina, Lycoming County
Commissioner Robert Postal, Mifflin County
Commissioner Stacy Richards, Union County
Commissioner Chuck Steininger, Snyder County

LEO Board Members Excused

Commissioner Steven Dershem, Centre County
Commissioner Joe Klebon, Northumberland County

Guests Attending

Jamie Aurand
Jon Dewald
Michele Foust
Jonah Howe
Devon Wells
Dave Zartman

WDB Staff Attending

Amy Keefer
Brooke Gessner
Korrie Lucas
Erica Mulberger
Marca O'Hargan
Gabi Randall
Kelly Walter
Morgan Whitteker

Call to Order and Welcome

Commissioner Robert Postal opened the meeting at 9:17 a.m. and confirmed a quorum was met. He welcomed Devon Wells, a junior at Jersey Shore School District. Commissioner Angela Harding introduced Devon as a summer intern participating in the Bridges to the Future In-School Youth program and spoke to the value of having Devon learn and work with Clinton County.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Postal called for a motion to approve the March 18, 2026 meeting minutes previously sent to all LEO Board members.



Commissioner Stacy Richards made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2026 LEO Board meeting. Commissioner Rebecca Dressler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Invitation for Public Comments

Commissioner Postal opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Appointment of new Workforce Development Board (WDB) Member

Erica Mulberger, Executive Director of Advance Central PA, reported that Susan Swartz has retired from her position with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). As a mandated partner with membership on the WDB, OVR has submitted a nomination letter in support of Madelyn "Maddy" Kutz for

consideration. Maddy serves as Acting District Administrator of the OVR Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitative Services Williamsport District Office and would fill the Title I Rehabilitation Act vacancy. Erica recommended consideration of a two-year term to stagger WDB re-appointments.

- ▲ **Commissioner Rebecca Dressler made a motion to appoint Madelyn Kutz, Acting District Administrator of the OVR BVRs, to the Workforce Development Board as the Title I of Rehabilitation Act Representative with a term from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028. Commissioner David Kovach seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Steve Stumbris has announced he is not seeking re-appointment due to scheduling conflicts. This leaves a vacancy for the Economic Development category. Erica explained an application was received from Amanda Craig Bradley, President/CEO for the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce and commented that her regional position serving a number of Advance Central PA counties is a strength in addition to her qualifications.

- ▲ **Commissioner Angela Harding made a motion to appoint Amanda Craig Bradley, President/CEO for the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, to the Workforce Development Board as the Economic Development Representative with a term from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029. Commissioner Chuck Steininger seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.**

Commissioner Postal questioned when his Chair position comes up for reelection; Erica confirmed it will occur in 2027.

Executive Director's Update

Erica Mulberger, Advance Central PA Executive Director, provided updates.

PA CareerLink® Locations and Budget

The Central Region was one of only two Workforce Development Areas that did not receive a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding reduction this year, though Erica cautioned this follows a \$921,000 reduction last year.

As part of an on-going plan to ensure fiscal prudence, Erica announced the relocation of the PA CareerLink® Lycoming County to the Horizon Federal Credit Union Building at 330 Pine Street, Williamsport. While the move is anticipated to reduce expenses by approximately \$100,000 per year, the site offers improvements over the current location as a fully renovated building. Commissioner Postal commended efforts to reduce overhead and at the same time expressed the continued importance of maintaining physical locations as well as digital and mobile service delivery.

Commissioner Richards commented that funding constraints are becoming more challenging, noting that many grants do not cover essential staffing or technical needs, which is devastating for effective service delivery. She highlighted a troubling trend of shifting technical assistance costs into administration, further straining limited resources. Commissioner Richards emphasized that flat funding at the local, state, and federal levels have large negative impacts, leaving organizations increasingly squeezed in how funds can be used. She warned that these pressures will eventually impact the ability to retain strong leadership and staff. She encouraged fellow commissioners in elevating the issue to a broader level, for sustainable long-term solutions.

Commissioner Postal emphasized the need to continually reassess and adapt business models, noting that organizations operating under outdated approaches need to evaluate and adjust them annually. He acknowledged the evolving environment and agreed that while change is necessary, it requires intentional shifts in how business is conducted to remain sustainable.

Erica reminded the LEO Board that staff did not receive pay increases last year due to the decreased allocation which was necessary but also a concern regarding retention of highly qualified staff. She added that it is sometimes challenging to change the business model when the law has strict mandates and is underfunded. Building on the comments Commissioner Richards offered, Erica noted that one easy way for Commissioners to help workforce development is to sign letters that support policy and regulations that align with local needs.

Open Discussion

Jonah Howe offered a brief update on work PPL has underway across the region, including installation of new poles.

Commissioner Mark Mussina shared that Lycoming County has new delegates leading the local political parties and they are bringing a fresh wave of leadership and collaboration to the area.

Commissioner Richards shared information from a recent work session regarding Susquehanna Valley Mediation, a nonprofit focused on recovery and reentry support, including connecting reentry individuals to good jobs and to trained community mentors. She suggested Advance Central PA may want to be a valuable partner for the group to connect with. Commissioner Richards spoke about the ongoing challenges for re-entry individuals in securing employment, particularly when employers express willingness to hire but are reluctant to do so until several years have passed since an infraction. Union County is contributing \$1,000 toward participation in the program, including support for a community mentor.

Erica thanked Commissioner Richards for the information and expressed the importance of knowing about these initiatives which are sometimes challenging to directly support because of associated costs in the limited funding environment at present. She also noted that PA CareerLink® partners offers services to reentry participants that can be leveraged at no cost.

Commissioner Mussina shared information about GEO Reentry Services in Lycoming County, a third-party program with a similar focus on reducing recidivism. The program provides group workshops and counseling services and noted they have had 90 graduates from the program to date. The program is well-established and effective and shared a success story of a participant who required multiple attempts before completing the program, describing the experience as life-changing.

Date of Next Meetings

Commissioner Postal announced the following upcoming meetings:

- Executive Committee Meeting – August 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
- LEO Prep Meeting – September 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- WDB/LEO Joint Meeting – September 16, 2026 Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to attend to, Commissioner Postal adjourned the LEO Board at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Walter



Office/Board Coordinator

Advance Central PA
 FY 26 Contract Expense and Obligation Report
 From 7/1/2025 Through 6/30/26

Contract Period	Contract Title	Available Funds	Total Expended	Obligated Funds ¹	% of Total Oblig. and Exp	Unoblig. Amount
10/24 - 06/26	PY24 2nd Inc. WIOA Adult	745,402	745,402	0	100.00%	0
10/24 - 06/26	PY24 WIOA DW to WIOA Adult Transfer	1,243,387	1,243,387	0	100.00%	0
07/25 - 06/27	PY25 1st Inc. WIOA Adult	206,585	206,585	0	100.00%	0
10/25 - 06/27	PY25 2nd Inc. WIOA Adult	854,922	41,930	727,625	90.01%	85,367
	Adult Programs	3,050,296	2,237,304	727,625	97.20%	85,367
10/24 - 06/26	PY24 2nd Inc. WIOA Dislocated Worker	356,757	356,757	0	100.00%	0
07/25 - 06/27	PY25 1st Inc. WIOA Dislocated Worker	290,780	259,615	2,087	90.00%	29,078
10/25 - 06/27	PY25 2nd Inc. WIOA Dislocated Worker	1,071,507	0	964,357	90.00%	107,150
	Dislocated Worker Programs	1,719,044	616,372	966,444	92.08%	136,228
04/24 - 06/26	PY24 WIOA Youth	1,403,554	1,403,554	0	100.00%	0
04/25 - 06/27	PY25 WIOA Youth	1,395,019	477,207	782,577	90.31%	135,235
07/24 - 06/26	PY24 TANF Youth	175,564	175,564	0	100.00%	0
07/25 - 06/27	PY25 TANF Youth	803,803	655,158	134,672	98.26%	13,973
09/24 - 06/26	PY24 Business & Education Partnership 1st Inc.	44,541	44,541	0	100.00%	0
10/24 - 12/26	PY24 Business & Education Partnership 2nd Inc.	98,550	58,085	25,124	84.43%	15,341
	Youth Programs	3,921,031	2,814,109	942,373	95.80%	164,549
07/25- 06/26	EARN	2,650,585	1,980,221	131,730	79.68%	538,634
	Welfare Programs	2,650,585	1,980,221	131,730	79.68%	538,634
01/24 - 06/27	Next Gen 23 - Building & Construction	173,851	73,681	0	42.38%	100,170
01/24 - 06/27	Next Gen 23 - Agricultural	147,761	16,004	0	10.83%	131,757
NA	IP Sustainability Fund	624,206	9,936	0	1.59%	614,270
	Industry Partnerships	945,818	99,621	0	10.53%	846,197
01/22 - 06/26	PASmart CPI Apprenticeship	125,711	111,993	0	89.09%	13,718
01/23 - 03/31	Apprenticeship Building America	143,561	81,959	0	57.09%	61,602
1/26 - 06/28	PASmart CPI Apprenticeship	400,000	151,991	197,972	87.49%	50,037
06/25 - 05/27	School to Work	103,154	21,749	49,756	69.32%	31,649
	Reemployment Services	772,426	193,952	0	25.11%	578,474
07/25 -12/25	Statewide - CareerLink Awareness	19,933	19,933	0	100.00%	0
07/24 - 06/26	Statewide - Communications Coordinator	15,039	15,039	0	100.00%	0
04/24 - 04/26	DWG Opioid	235,323	228,134	0	96.95%	7,189
NA	Research Department	114,655	29,029	0	25.32%	85,626
NA	Degenstein	1,398	0	0	0.00%	1,398
NA	Gold Standard	49,963	101	0	0.20%	49,862
NA	Highmark Initiative	467	467	0	100.00%	0
NA	Engage	32,321	2,669	0	8.26%	29,652
NA	PASmart Innovation	20,000	20,000	0	100.00%	0
NA	Fit4Construction	42,500	0	0	0.00%	42,500
NA	ELIC	194	184	0	94.85%	10
	Other Programs	261,498	52,450	0	20.06%	209,048
	Grand Total	13,320,698	7,994,029	2,768,172	80.79%	2,558,497

Notes:

1 Obligated funds include the funds unexpended but obligated for the FY 27 subcontractor, training, and Resource Sharing Agreement budgets.

Advance Central PA
Operating Budget to Actual Comparison
From 7/1/2025 Through 6/30/26

	Total Budget - Original	YTD Actual Expense	Total Budget Variance - Original	Percent Total Budget Expended *
Operational Expenses				
Salaries And Benefits	1,180,157	1,066,083	114,073.66	90.33%
Staff Travel & Development	16,948	11,995	4,952.67	70.78%
Board Expenses	4,933	3,950	983.19	80.07%
General Office Supplies	6,046	3,662	2,383.79	60.57%
Leases - Copiers/Equipment	2,109	2,013	95.62	95.47%
Outreach	1,400	809	590.82	57.80%
Subscriptions	17,709	12,953	4,755.90	73.14%
Memberships	9,138	9,638	(499.63)	105.47%
Vehicles	0	0	0.00	0.00%
Equipment And Furnishings	11,237	8,898	2,339.40	79.18%
Professional Fees	16,575	15,369	1,205.70	92.73%
Business Services	14,760	13,933	827.33	94.39%
Computer Services	44,182	23,752	20,429.70	53.76%
Facility Costs	<u>83,953</u>	<u>75,947</u>	<u>8,005.94</u>	<u>90.46%</u>
Total Operational Expenses	1,409,147.00	1,249,002.91	160,144.09	<u>88.64%</u>
Total Expenditures	1,409,147.00	1,249,002.91	160,144.09	<u>88.64%</u>

Notes:

* Anticipated expenditure rate of 100%.

Advance Central PA
FY26 Consolidated PA CareerLink® Operating Budget to Actual Comparison
From 7/1/2025 Through 6/30/26

	Total Budget - Original	Current Year Actual	Total Budget Variance - Original	Percent Total Budget Expended *	Percent Total Budget Remaining
REVENUE:					
WIOA Adult	517,880	409,173	108,707	79.01%	20.99%
WIOA Dislocated Worker	-	-	-	0.00%	100.00%
WIOA Out of School Youth	191,506	151,172	40,334	78.94%	21.06%
EARN	376,320	301,311	75,009	80.07%	19.93%
Advance Central PA Total: ¹	1,085,706	861,656	224,050	79.36%	20.64%
WAGNER PEYSER	120,963	97,260	23,703	80.40%	19.60%
WP REGIONAL	23,529	18,808	4,721	79.93%	20.07%
VETS	151,467	120,187	31,280	79.35%	20.65%
RAPID RESPONSE	19,965	14,028	5,937	70.26%	29.74%
OVR	116,614	90,841	25,773	77.90%	22.10%
OVERSIGHT	23,529	18,808	4,721	79.93%	20.07%
RESEA	362,890	284,310	78,580	78.35%	21.65%
UC	74,919	58,371	16,548	77.91%	22.09%
STAFF DEVELOPMENT ⁴	10,835	8,739	2,096	80.66%	19.34%
State Partner Total ² :	904,713	711,352	193,361	78.63%	21.37%
Total REVENUE	1,990,418	1,573,008	417,411	79.03%	20.97%
EXPENSES:					
PERSONNEL					
Total PERSONNEL	1,065,102	880,252	184,849.93	82.64%	17.36%
FACILITY					
Total FACILITY	737,662	711,180	26,482.03	96.41%	3.59%
OPERATIONAL					
Total OPERATIONAL	421,540	215,681	205,859	51.17%	48.83%
USAGE FEE (Non-Partner Renters)					
Total USAGE FEE ³	233,887	234,106	(220)	100.09%	-0.09%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,990,418	1,573,008	417,410	79.03%	20.97%

NOTE: Revenue amounts show details by PA CareerLink® partner. The expenses are listed by category. Monthly, the expenses are allocated to all partners and then the revenues are collected. Therefore revenues and expenditures should be equal.

* Anticipated expenditure rate of 100%.

1 Advance Central PA is responsible for approximately 55% of the total shared PA CareerLink® operating costs compared to 45% paid by other required PA CareerLink® FTE partners.

2 Changes to state funding include the following: UC is now a full partner rather than a usage fee. Re-employment has replaced Trade funding, and RESEA is being partially used to offset Wagner Peyser funding.

3 The usage fee budget reflects Pennsylvania State University's Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy cancelling their rental agreement with Advance Central PA for the PA CareerLink® Lycoming County effective 10/1/25.

4 The Staff Development FTE was moved out of the region effective 10/1.

Advance Central PA
 Subcontractor Budget and Actual Comparison
 From 7/1/2025 Through 6/30/2026

Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11 (TIU)

	Total Budget - Original	Current Year Actual	Total Budget Variance - Original	Percent Total Budget Expended ¹	Percent Total Budget Remaining
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES ²					
Adult Pool	251,702	244,865	6,837	97.28%	2.72%
Dislocated Worker Pool	173,771	169,046	4,726	97.28%	2.72%
OS Youth Pool ³	304,273	296,029	8,244	97.29%	2.71%
TANF	10,000	9,730	270	97.30%	2.70%
EARN Pool ³	19,149	18,627	522	97.28%	2.72%
Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	758,895	738,297	20,598	97.29%	2.71%
DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES ⁴					
Adult Pool	102	102	-	100.00%	0.00%
Dislocated Worker Pool	100	100	-	100.00%	0.00%
Total DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES	202	202	-	0.00%	100.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	759,097	738,499	20,598	97.29%	2.71%

Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. (CSO)

	Total Budget - Original	Current Year Actual	Total Budget Variance - Original	Percent Total Budget Expended ¹	Percent Total Budget Remaining
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES ²					
Adult Pool	838,591	781,524	57,067	93.19%	6.81%
TANF Youth	556,953	519,272	37,681	93.23%	6.77%
Dislocated Worker Pool	341,844	324,684	17,160	94.98%	5.02%
Business Edu. Partnership	82000	56,876	25,124	69.36%	30.64%
Link	148,977	105,909	43,068	71.09%	28.91%
NDWG	161,734	161,734	-	100.00%	0.00%
School to Work	25,000	2,516	22,484	10.06%	89.94%
ABA	22,171	1,295	20,876	5.84%	94.16%
EARN Pool	1,388,120	1,345,166	42,954	96.91%	3.09%
EARN SNAP	46,714	46,714	-	100.00%	0.00%
Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	3,612,104	3,345,690	266,414	92.62%	7.38%

DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES ⁴					
Adult Pool	12,881	12,881	-	100.00%	0.00%
TANF Youth	237,325	150,602	86,723	63.46%	36.54%
Dislocated Worker Pool	8,500	3,885	4,615	45.71%	54.29%
NDWG	1,500	-	1,500	0.00%	100.00%
ABA	36,666	9,164	27,502	24.99%	75.01%
EARN Pool	63,500	25,456	38,044	40.09%	59.91%
Total DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES	360,372	201,988	158,384	56.05%	43.95%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,972,476	3,547,678	424,798	89.31%	10.69%

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit

	Total Budget - Original	Current Year Actual	Total Budget Variance - Original	Percent Total Budget Expended	Percent Total Budget Remaining
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES ²					
TANF Youth	36,656	28,531	8,125	77.83%	22.17%
OS Youth Pool	983,027	974,610	8,417	99.14%	0.86%
Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	1,019,683	1,003,141	16,542	98.38%	1.62%
DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES ⁴					
TANF Youth	28,304	26,431	1,873	93.38%	6.62%
OS Youth Pool	259,141	217,903	41,238	84.09%	15.91%
Total DIRECT CUSTOMER SERVICES	287,445	244,334	43,111	85.00%	15.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,307,128	1,247,475	59,653	95.44%	4.56%

NOTES:

1 Anticipated expenditure rate of 100% for operating expenses.

2 Operational expenses include personnel, facilities, and operating expenses for the subcontractors.

3 These budgets are for TIU's Business Services contract in which TIU assists with placements of program participants and helps employers find talent from all PA CareerLink[®] programs.

4 Direct customer services include wages and benefits for participants in paid work experience and support services like transportation, clothing, and clearances.

FY27 CONSOLIDATED TRAINING CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS
As of 8/28/2026

Fund Source	Budget	Encumbrance	Actual	Total Obligation	Budget Available for Encumbrance	Number of Participants	Percentage of Total Budget Obligated
INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS (ITAs)						FY27 ITA	
Adult	\$49,753	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$49,753	0	0.00%
Adult POS	\$199,013	\$83,489	\$0	\$83,489	\$115,524	31	41.95%
Dislocated Worker	\$69,103	\$18,551	\$0	\$18,551	\$50,552	4	26.85%
TOTAL ITA	\$317,869	\$102,039	\$0	\$102,039	\$215,829	35	32.10%

ON THE JOB TRAININGS (OJTs)						FY27 OJT	
Adult	\$132,675	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$132,675	1	0.00%
Adult POS	\$46,068	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$46,068	0	0.00%
Dislocated Worker	\$166,677	\$34,341	\$0	\$34,341	\$132,336	1	20.60%
Out of School Youth	\$378,589	\$38,258	\$0	\$38,258	\$340,332	6	10.11%
TOTAL OJT	\$724,010	\$72,599	\$0	\$72,599	\$651,411	8	10.03%
TOTAL ITA/OJT	\$1,041,879	\$174,638	\$0	\$174,638	\$867,240	43	16.76%

INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING						Number of Participants	Percentage of Total Budget Obligated
Fund Source	Budget	Encumbrance	Actual	Total Obligation	Budget Available for Encumbrance		
Agriculture	FY26	\$102,052	\$9,257	\$9,257	\$92,795	23	9%
	FY27		\$0			0	
Construction	FY26	\$134,170	\$65,829	\$65,829	\$68,341	389	49%
	FY27		\$0			0	
Total	\$236,222	\$0	\$75,087	\$75,087	\$161,135	412	32%

FY27 Central Region Budget Updates As of September 16, 2026

The Central Region's revenues increased to \$11,704,633 as carryover funding from FY26 was adjusted to actual when FY26 expenditures were finalized for the year. Additionally, Advance Central PA received a new grant for PA CareerLink® Day outreach and activities.

Advance Central PA's budget had a net increase due to the adjustments from carryover.

Advance Central PA's share of the PA CareerLink® Operating Budget increased due to Operating Budget updates including partner changes.

The Incumbent Worker training budget decreased, as carryover adjustments for the Industry Partnership grants were made based on FY26 actual expenditures.

The Service Delivery budget for CSO was adjusted based on the awarding of a 3-month ISY contract extension and adjustments to carryover grants. The Other Service Delivery was adjusted based on CSO being awarded the ISY contract as well as adjustments to carryover grants.

Note: Additional financial details can be found on the back of this page.

**Advance Central PA
FY 27 Central Region Budget Updates
As of September 16, 2026**

Following is the net change to the FY27 Revenues that were presented on June 17, 2026. This includes updated carryover amounts for all grants and a new grant for PA CareerLink® Day.

Total Revenues presented 6/17/26	\$ 11,533,529
Adjustments:	
Adult	887
Dislocated Worker	31,638
Youth	(7,142)
EARN Performance	50,504
TANF Youth	54,295
Unrestricted	1,697
Industry Partnership Sustainability	44,601
PA Smart Pre-Apprentice 2026	(11,603)
IP Agriculture	4,167
IP Construction	(27,223)
BEP 2024	5,465
PA CareerLink® Awareness	20,000
School to Work	14,318
Research	(10,500)
Net Increase	171,104
Revised Available Revenues	<u><u>\$ 11,704,633</u></u>

Below is a summary of adjustments to the FY27 expense budgets along with explanations for the changes. The budgets represent all funding sources.

Total Budget presented 6/17/26	\$ 11,533,529
Net Decrease in Allocated Funds	11,640
Net Increase in Unallocated Funds	159,463
Revised Total Budget	<u><u>\$ 11,704,633</u></u>

Advance Central PA's available budget had a net increase due to the adjustments from carryover.

Advance Central PA Budget presented 6/17/26	\$ 1,364,775
Adjustments:	
Net Increase	29,227
Revised Advance Central PA Budget	<u><u>\$ 1,394,002</u></u>

Advance Central PA's share of the Operating Budget increased due to Operating Budget updates including partner changes.

Operating Budget presented 6/17/26	\$ 1,035,456
Net Increase	5,862
Revised Operating Budget	<u><u>\$ 1,041,318</u></u>

The Incumbent Worker training budget decreased, as carryover adjustments for the Industry Partnership grants were made based on FY26 actual expenditures.

Training Budget presented 6/17/26	\$ 893,333
Net Increase/Decrease	(28,864)
Revised Training Budget	<u><u>\$ 864,469</u></u>

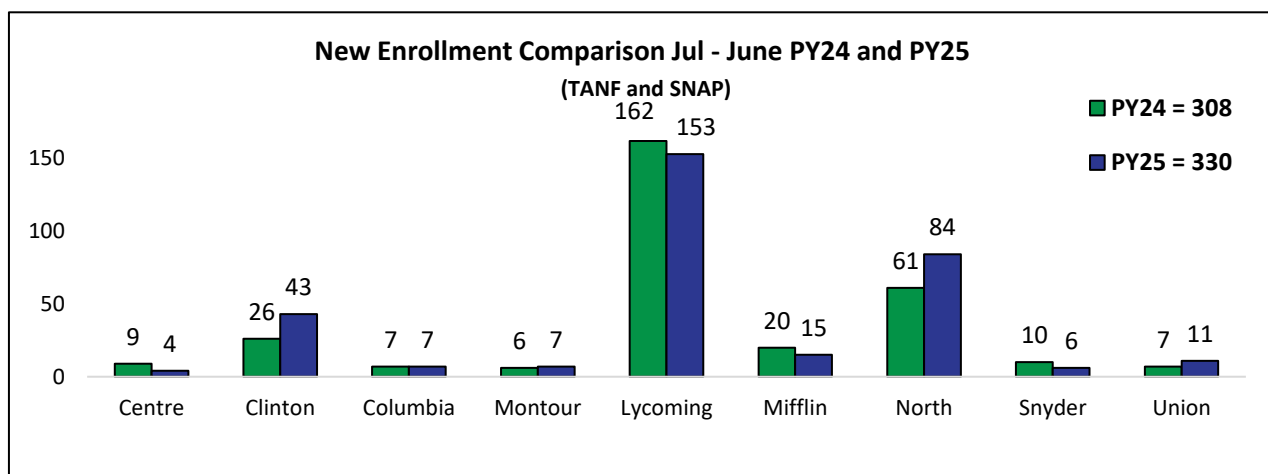
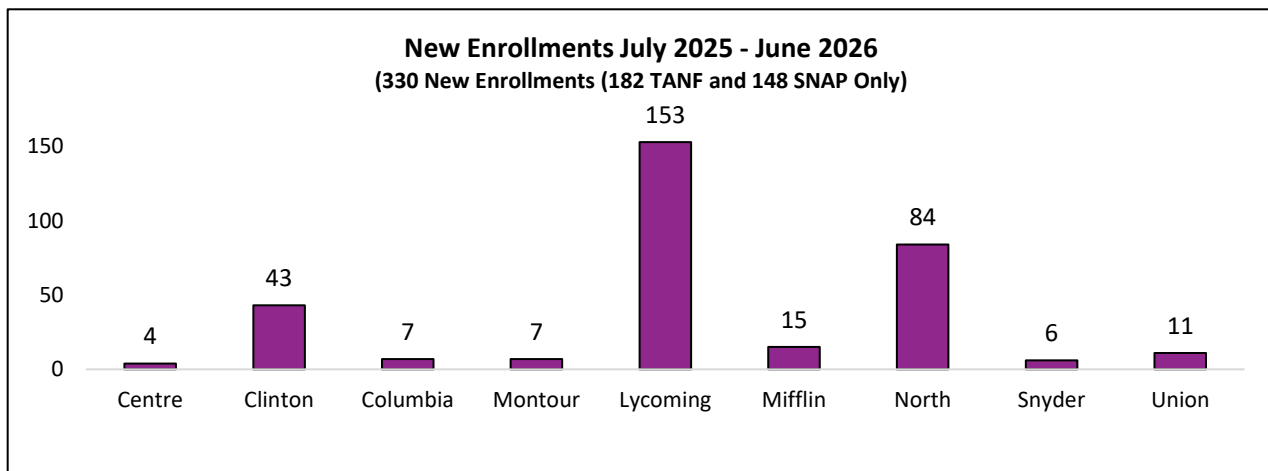
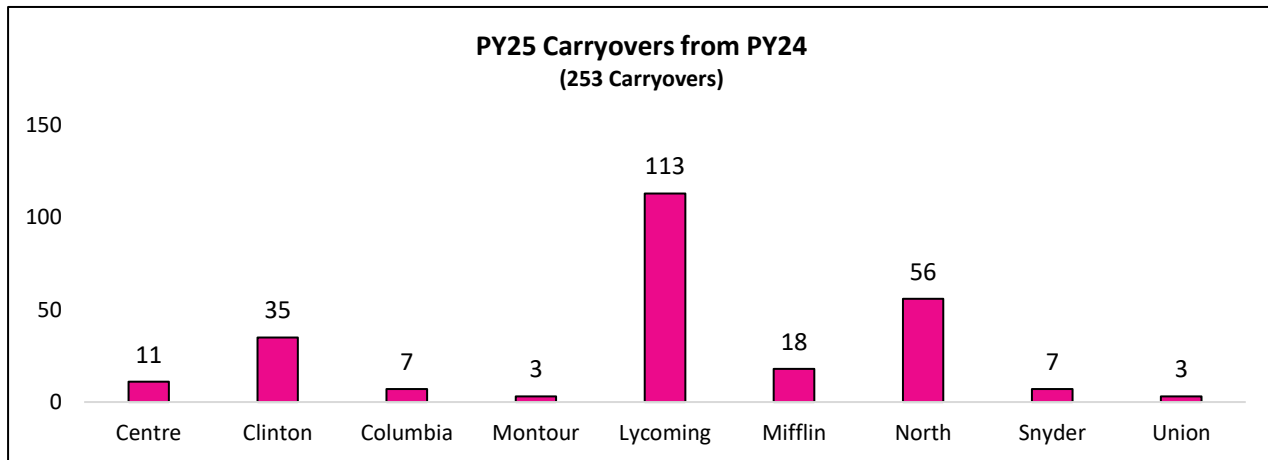
The Service Delivery budget for CSO was adjusted based on the awarding of a 3 month ISY contract extension and adjustments to carryover grants. The Other Service Delivery was adjusted based on CSO being awarded the ISY contract as well as adjustments to carryover grants.

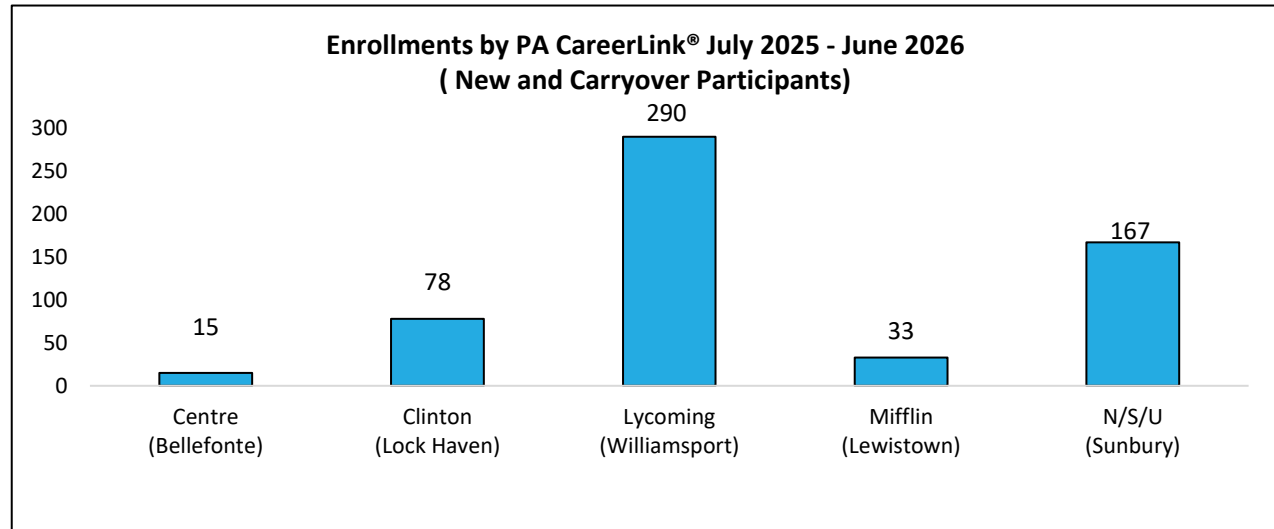
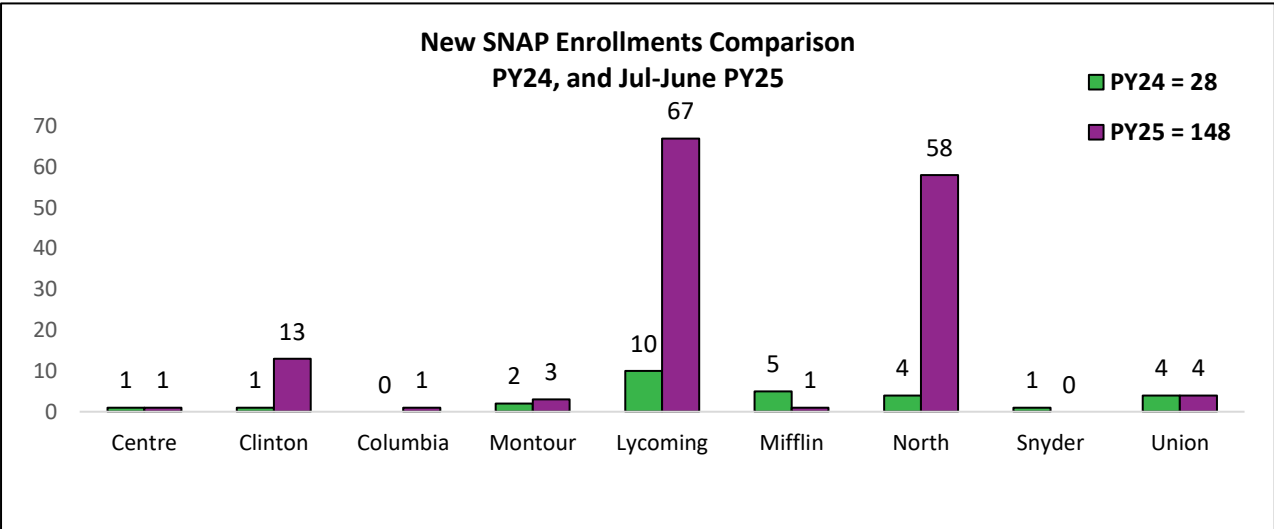
	CSO	TIU	CSIU	Other
Service Delivery Budgets presented 6/17/26	\$ 2,801,422	\$ 379,548	\$ 1,008,429	\$ 1,431,329
Net Increase/Decrease	169,608	-	-	(164,193)
Revised Service Delivery Budgets	<u><u>\$ 2,971,030</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 379,548</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,008,429</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,267,136</u></u>

The unallocated amounts were adjusted to reflect the adjustments previously mentioned.

Unallocated Budget presented 6/17/26	\$ 1,416,737
Adjustments:	
Net Increase	159,463
Revised Unallocated Budget	<u><u>\$ 1,576,200</u></u>

EARN Program Year 2025-2026 Enrollment Report





Monitoring Update

June 2026 through August 2026

LOCAL MONITORING

Advance Central PA staff conducts regular monitoring of subrecipients, overall PA CareerLink® operations, accessibility and equal opportunity. All contacts and reports are documented. Equal Opportunity monitoring is completed at the time of subrecipient and PA CareerLink® operations monitoring unless otherwise noted. Complete monitoring reports are available to the appropriate WDB member or WDB Committee for review.

Subrecipients and core programs that are regularly monitored include:

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU)	WIOA Out-of-School Youth (OSY) TANF Youth Development Program (YDP)
Central Susquehanna Opportunities (CSO)	WIOA Adult (Adult) WIOA Dislocated Worker (DW) EARN In-School Youth (ISY) TANF YDP PA CareerLink® Operator
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit (TIU)	WIOA Business Solutions

LOCAL MONITORING ACTIVITY

ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDER LIST (ETPL)

Classroom training providers and courses must be approved by Advance Central PA and then the PA Department of Labor and Industry to be on the ETPL before a customer can receive funding assistance. Applications for approval can be submitted at any time, and all programs must reapply each year ensuring PA CareerLink® customers have reliable course and outcome information and prudent use of WIOA funds. Further, staff review ITA progress and outcomes, monitoring providers throughout the year.

Training Programs Approved for PY26 Funding (as of 9/2/2026): 40

Staff are providing outreach and technical support as needed for more providers and programs to participate in the ETPL.

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING CONTRACTS

Monitored for risks, quality of services, adherence to the training plan, and fiscal requirements.

Desk Reviews

New Contracts Reviewed: 4

Open Contracts Reviewed: 7

Onsite Monitoring

Jobseeker Program	BST Subrecipient	Employer	County	Visit	Findings
DW	TIU	Tri-County COG	Columbia	5/8/2026	Corrective actions accepted: 8/25/2026

SUBRECIPIENT FISCAL PRACTICES

Monitored for overall compliance with federal, state, and local requirements.

Desk Reviews

- Subcontractors submitted documentation for FY25/FY26 fiscal monitoring. Staff review is in process and reports are anticipated to be released soon.
- Ongoing technical assistance is being provided to TIU to resolve issues that have been identified.
- Staff continue to provide technical assistance to all subcontractors as needed.

PA CAREERLINK® OPERATIONS

Monitored for quality, compliance, and performance.

Onsite Monitoring/Desk Reviews/Self-Monitoring Surveys

Site	Site Visit	Report	Findings	CAP (Initial)	Closed
Centre	11/03/2025	5/4/2026	5 required actions	6/3/2026	6/26/2026

SUBRECIPIENT PROGRAM OPERATIONS- INCLUDING SPECIAL GRANTS

Monitored for quality, compliance, and performance.

File & Desk Reviews; Onsite Visits; Remote Observations

Program-Subrecipient	Files	Begin	Report	Findings	CAP (Initial)	Closed
Adult/DW	35	3/23/2026	6/30/2026	7 required actions 4 recommendations	8/5/2026	8/27/2026
Operator	N/A	4/2/2026	8/4/2026	2 required actions	8/20/2026	Pending
ISY	N/A	4/22/2026	4/29/2026	4 required actions	5/29/2026	8/11/2026
OSY	18	7/6/2026	Pending	Pending	Pending	Pending

STATE MONITORING

The local area is monitored for compliance, performance, and quality by agencies within the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry and Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. Advance Central PA provides requested materials, submits reports, and implements any corrective action plans required.

STATE MONITORING ACTIVITY

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY BUREAU OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (BWDA)

Monitoring of the local workforce development area's fiscal and procurement systems and the local workforce development board's (LWDB) compliance and oversight functions.

- PY25 monitoring
 - Staff uploaded PY25 meeting notes and monitoring reports dated after the initial monitoring submission through June 30; these were submitted timely by July 15.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY BUREAU OF WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP & OPERATIONS (BWPO)

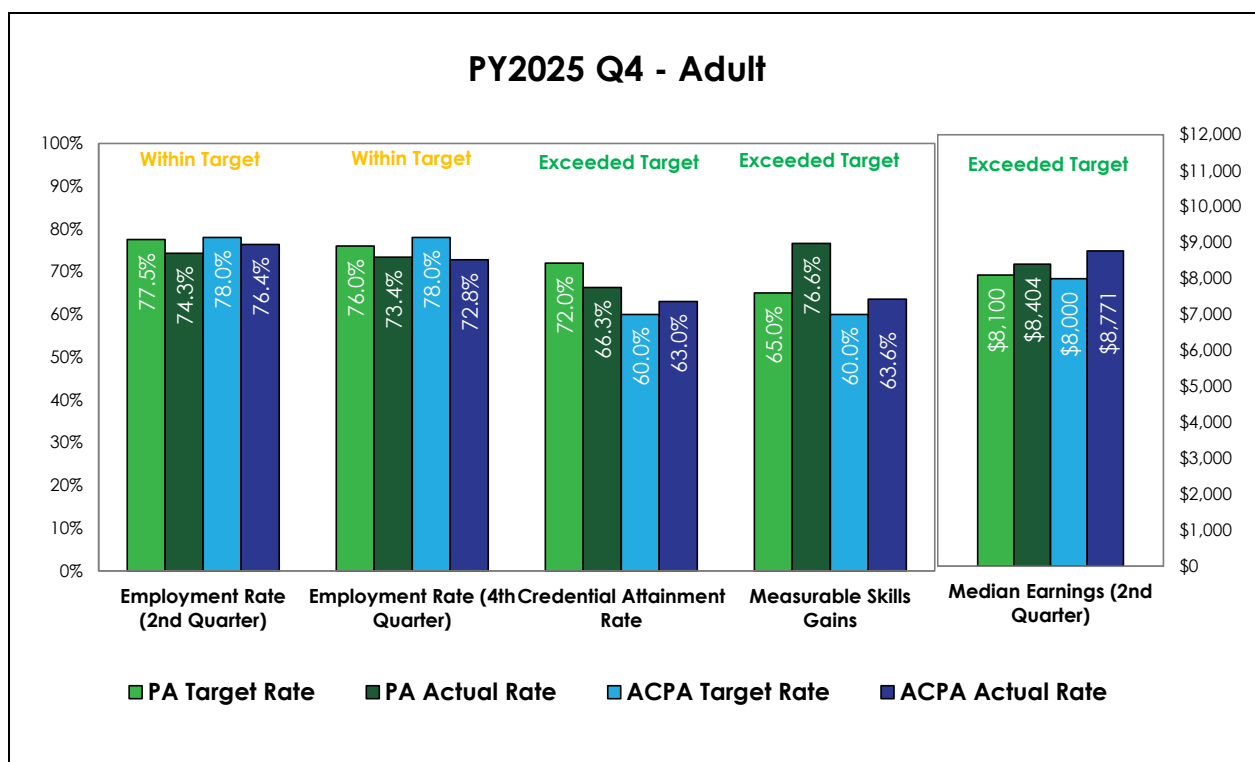
Validating the CWDS data entry related to the local workforce development area's service provision and outcomes achieved

On December 31, BWPO issued results of their PY2024 Data Validation. Of the 40 participant records reviewed, 21 passed and 19 failed validations for one or more technical data elements. Staff must submit quarterly updates on the progress made toward resolving the issues.

- Staff continue to review the results to better understand the data validation requirements. The second response was submitted on June 30.

Common Measure Performance - Adult Program Year 2025 Q4

Performance Metric	Adult			
	Numerator	Actual Performance	Negotiated Goal	% of Goal Achieved
	Denominator			
Employment Rate (2nd Quarter)	162 212	76.4%	78.0%	97.9%
Employment Rate (4th Quarter)	139 191	72.8%	78.0%	93.3%
Median Earnings (2nd Quarter)	- -	\$8,771	\$8,000	109.6%
Credential Attainment Rate	34 54	63.0%	60.0%	105.0%
Measurable Skill Gains	75 118	63.6%	60.0%	106.0%
Average Program Score			✓	102.4%



Common Measure Definitions

Employment Rate (2nd Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment in the 2nd quarter after exit

Employment Rate (4th Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment in the 4th quarter after exit

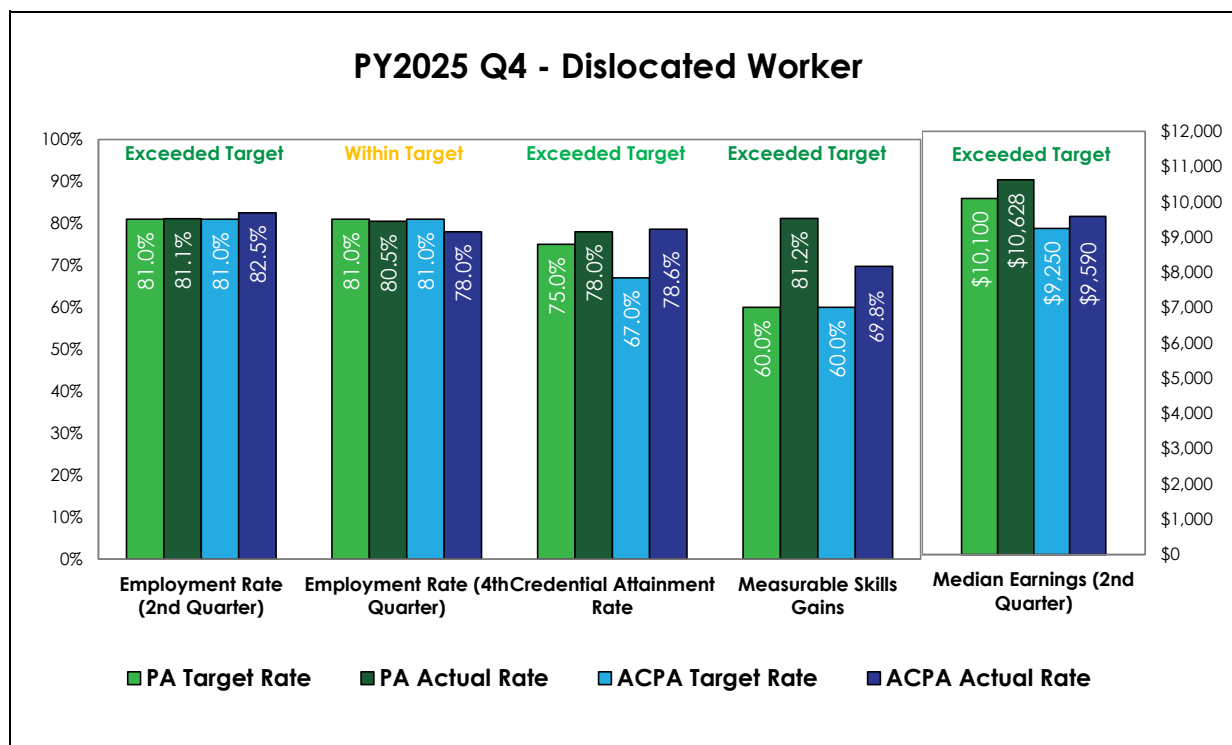
Credential Attainment Rate - % of participants who during participation or within one year from exit: 1) attain a high school diploma/equivalent along with employment or enrollment in postsecondary training, or 2) attained a postsecondary credential

Measurable Skills Gain - % of Adults in an education or training program who achieve milestone skill gains including but not limited to an increase in basic skills or completion of an OJT within the program year

Median Earnings - Median earnings of Adults who have unsubsidized employment during the 2nd quarter after exit

Common Measure Performance - Dislocated Worker Program Year 2025 Q4

Performance Metric	Dislocated Worker			
	Numerator	Actual Performance	Negotiated Goal	% of Goal Achieved
	Denominator			
Employment Rate (2nd Quarter)	66 80	82.5%	81.0%	101.9%
Employment Rate (4th Quarter)	46 59	78.0%	81.0%	96.3%
Median Earnings (2nd Quarter)	- -	\$9,590	\$9,250	103.7%
Credential Attainment Rate	11 14	78.6%	67.0%	117.3%
Measurable Skill Gains	30 43	69.8%	60.0%	116.3%
Average Program Score				✓ 107.1%



Common Measure Definitions

Employment Rate (2nd Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment in the 2nd quarter after exit

Employment Rate (4th Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment in the 4th quarter after exit

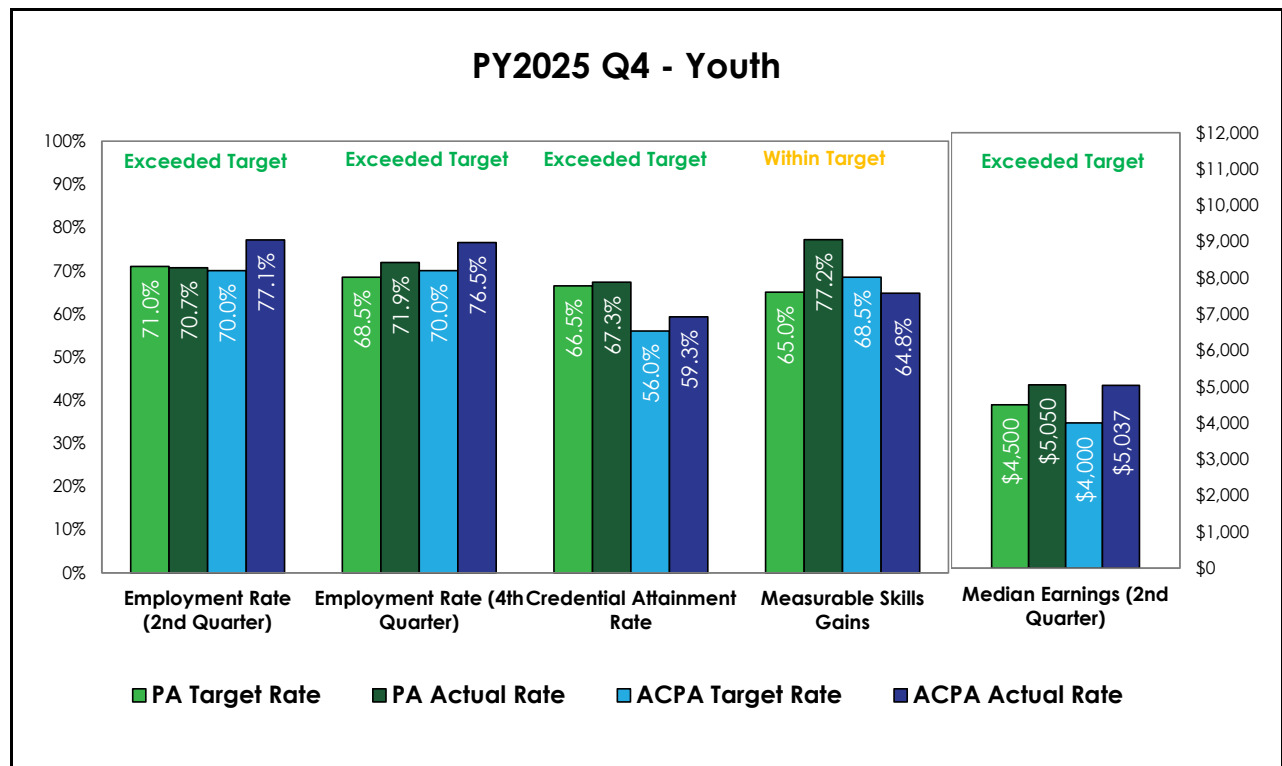
Credential Attainment Rate - % of participants who during participation or within one year from exit: 1) attain a high school diploma/equivalent along with employment or enrollment in postsecondary training, or 2) attained a postsecondary credential

Measurable Skills Gain - % of Adults in an education or training program who achieve milestone skill gains including but not limited to an increase in basic skills or completion of an OJT within the program year

Median Earnings - Median earnings of Adults who have unsubsidized employment during the 2nd quarter after exit

Common Measure Performance - Youth Program Year 2025 Q4

Performance Metric	Youth			
	Numerator	Actual Performance	Negotiated Goal	% of Goal Achieved
	Denominator			
Employment Rate (2nd Quarter)	131 170	77.1%	70.0%	110.1%
Employment Rate (4th Quarter)	127 66	76.5%	70.0%	109.3%
Median Earnings (2nd Quarter)	- -	\$5,037	\$4,000	125.9%
Credential Attainment Rate	48 81	59.3%	56.0%	105.9%
Measurable Skill Gains	35 54	64.8%	68.5%	94.6%
Average Program Score				✓ 109.2%



Common Measure Definitions

Employment Rate (2nd Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment or education/training in the 2nd quarter after exit

Employment Rate (4th Quarter) - % of participants in unsubsidized employment or education/training in the 4th quarter after exit

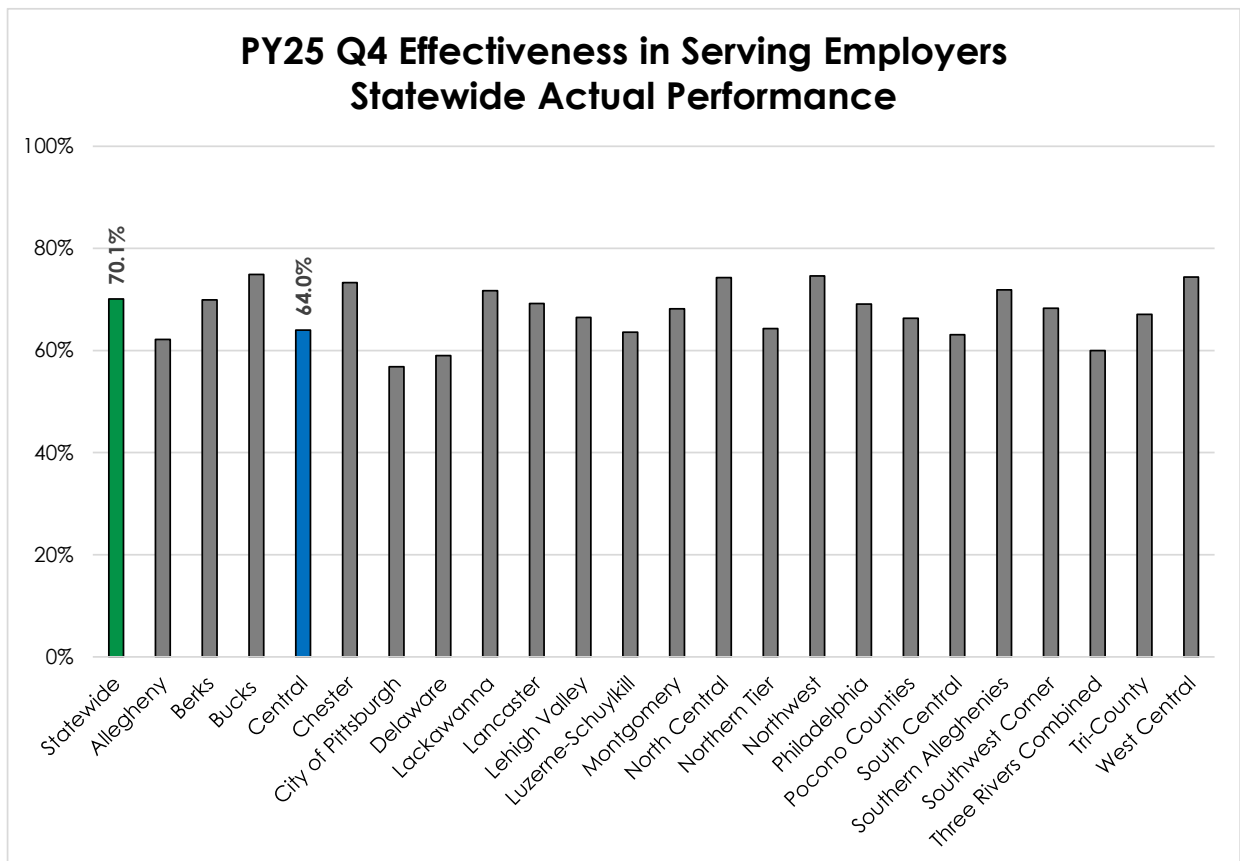
Credential Attainment Rate - % of participants who during participation or within one year from exit: 1) attain a high school diploma/equivalent along with employment or enrollment in postsecondary training, or 2) attained a postsecondary credential

Measurable Skills Gain - % of Adults in an education or training program who achieve milestone skill gains including but not limited to an increase in basic skills or completion of an OJT within the program year

Median Earnings - Median earnings of Adults who have unsubsidized employment during the 2nd quarter after exit

Common Measure Performance - Effectiveness in Serving Employers Program Year 2025 Q4

Performance Metric	Title I Programs			
	Numerator	Actual Performance	Negotiated Goal	% of Goal Achieved
	Denominator			
Effectiveness in Serving Employers	201	64.0%	N/A	N/A
	314			



Common Measure Definitions

Effectiveness in Serving Employers - Retention with the same employer in the second and fourth quarters following a participant's exit from a WIOA core program. Applies to Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth.
Timeframes: PY25 Q4 Core Program Exits occurred between 1/1/24 to 12/31/24.

Central Region Common Measure Attained and Negotiated Goals

Common Measure	PY25 Negotiated	PY25 Actual	PY26 Negotiated	PY27 Negotiated
Adult				
Employment 2nd Quarter after Exit	78%	76.4%	78.0%	78.5%
Employment 4th Quarter after Exit	78%	72.8%	78.0%	78.5%
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit	\$8,000	\$8,771	\$8,500	\$8,700
Credential Attainment Rate	60.0%	63.0%	63.0%	64.0%
Measurable Skill Gains	60.0%	63.6%	61.0%	62.0%
Dislocated Workers				
Employment 2nd Quarter after Exit	81.0%	82.5%	84.0%	84.5%
Employment 4th Quarter after Exit	81.0%	78.0%	81.0%	81.5%
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit	\$9,250	\$9,590	\$9,500	\$9,700
Credential Attainment Rate	67.0%	78.6%	73.0%	74.0%
Measurable Skill Gains	60.0%	69.8%	60.5%	61.0%
Youth				
Employment 2nd Quarter after Exit	70.0%	77.1%	73.0%	73.5%
Employment 4th Quarter after Exit	70.0%	76.5%	71.0%	72.5%
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit	\$4,000	\$5,037	\$4,300	\$4,400
Credential Attainment Rate*	56.0%	59.3%	55.0%	56.0%
Measurable Skill Gains*	68.5%	64.8%	68.0%	68.5%

Effectiveness in Serving Employers

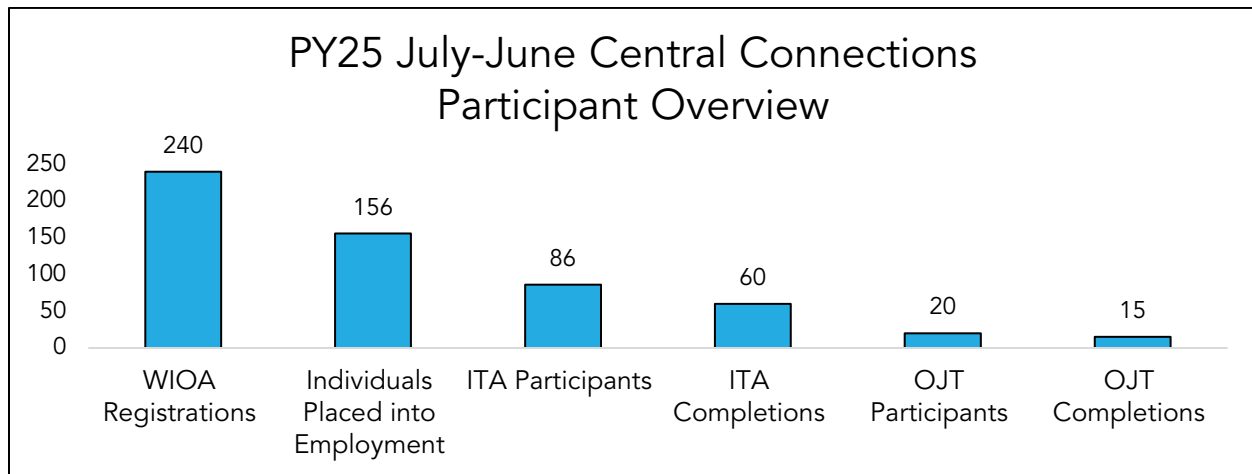
Additionally, Common Measures include Effectiveness in Serving Employers defined as employment with the same employer during the second and fourth quarters after exit. The rate is a single percentage calculated for the region based on participants who exited any of the Title I programs. This rate has not been negotiated to date and was calculated for the first time in PY25.

Percentage achieved for PY25 was 64%.

* Youth Credential Attainment Rate and Measurable Skill Gains are negotiated slightly lower than PY25 because In-school Youth are no longer represented in these measures. We don't know the full impact only serving Out-of-School Youth with WIOA Title I funds will have on common measures.

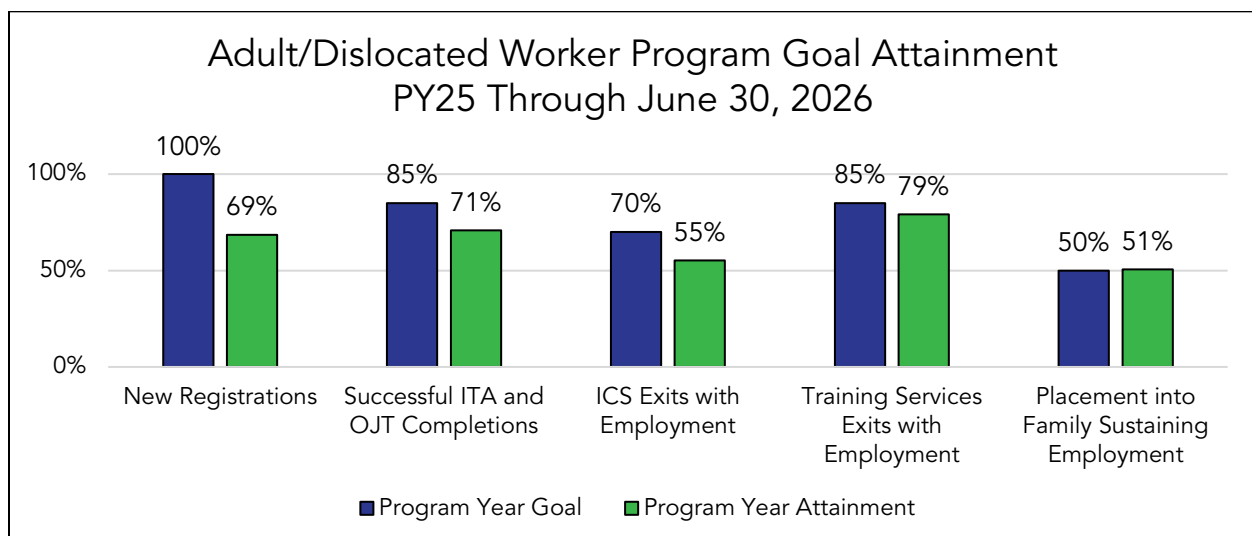
Adult/Dislocated Worker Program Goal Attainment PY25: July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026

Program Element	Program Year Goal	Actual Performance
New Registrations	350 (87.5 per qtr.)	69% (240 new registrations)
Successful ITA and OJT Completions (Compared to those that ended)	85%	71% (75 of 106)
Individualized Career Services Exits with Employment	70%	55% (84 of 152)
Training Services Exits with Employment	85%	79% (72 of 91)
Placement into Sustaining Employment (\$43,242/annually)	50%	51% (79 of 156)



*ITA and OJT participants include participants with PY25 training contracts that may still be in training, while ITA and OJT completions are those who have successfully completed their training but may still be receiving program services.

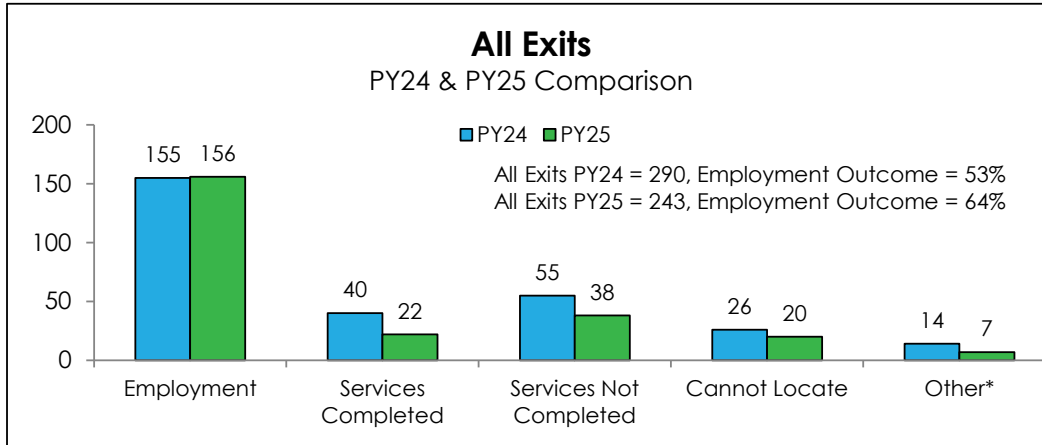
**Exits with employment includes individuals who have carried over from previous program years that exit services with employment.



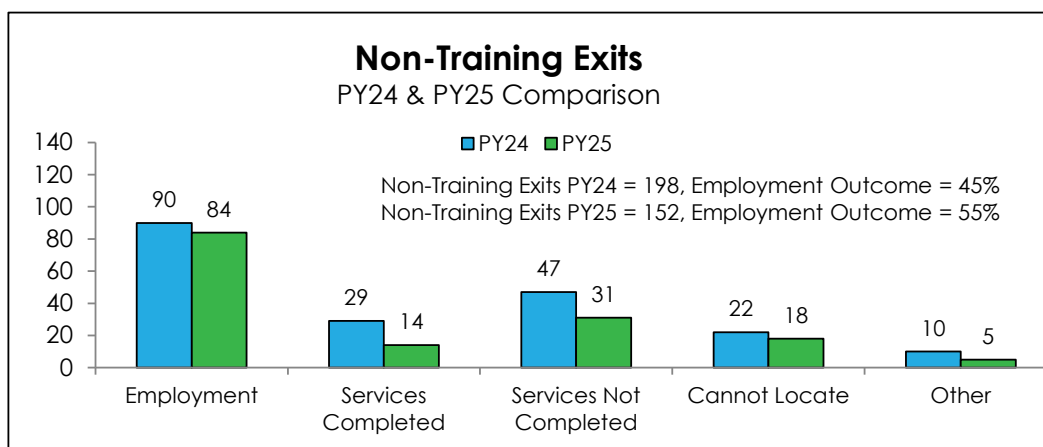
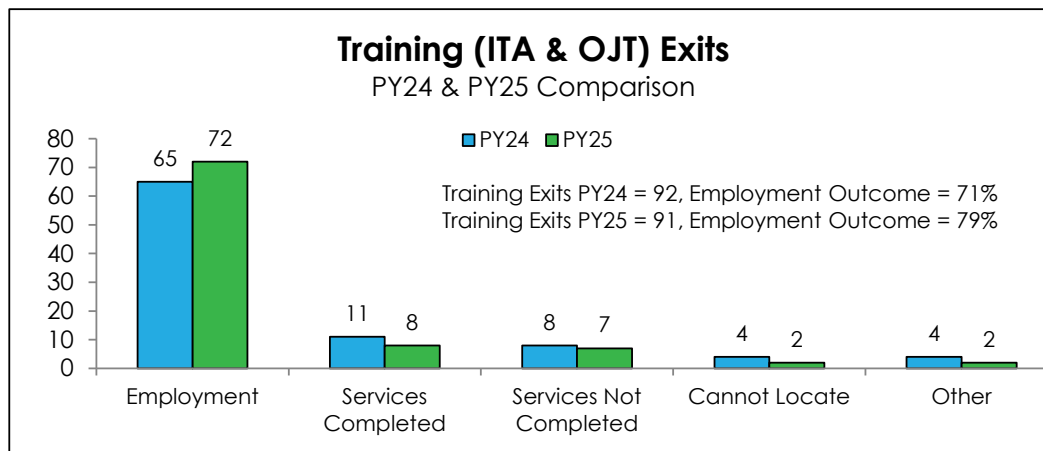
Adult/Dislocated Worker Outcomes Report

PY24 and PY25 Comparison

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 & July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026



Breakdown between Adult and Dislocated Worker Participants based on accessing ITA and/or OJT or not.



Other*
(applies to All Exits)

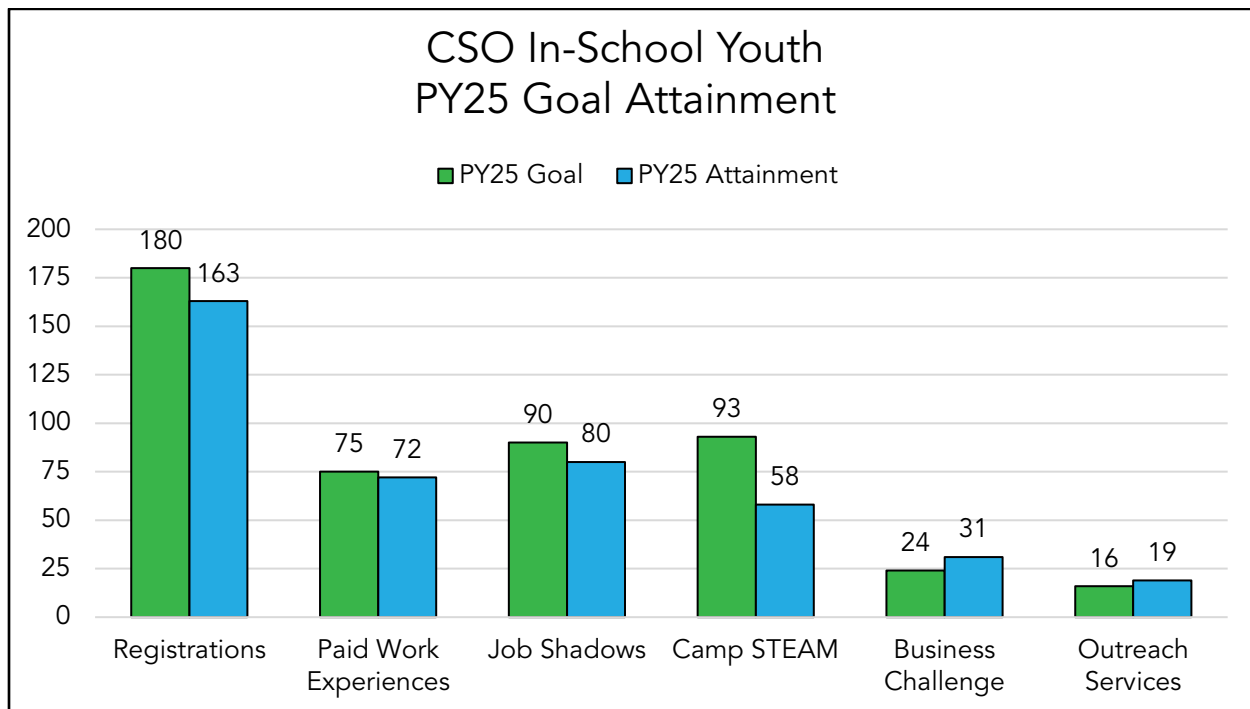
PY24: Deceased (2), Health, Medical (8), Institutionalized(2), Retirement (1), Reservists Called to Active Duty (1)
PY25: Health, Medical (5), Institutionalized (2)

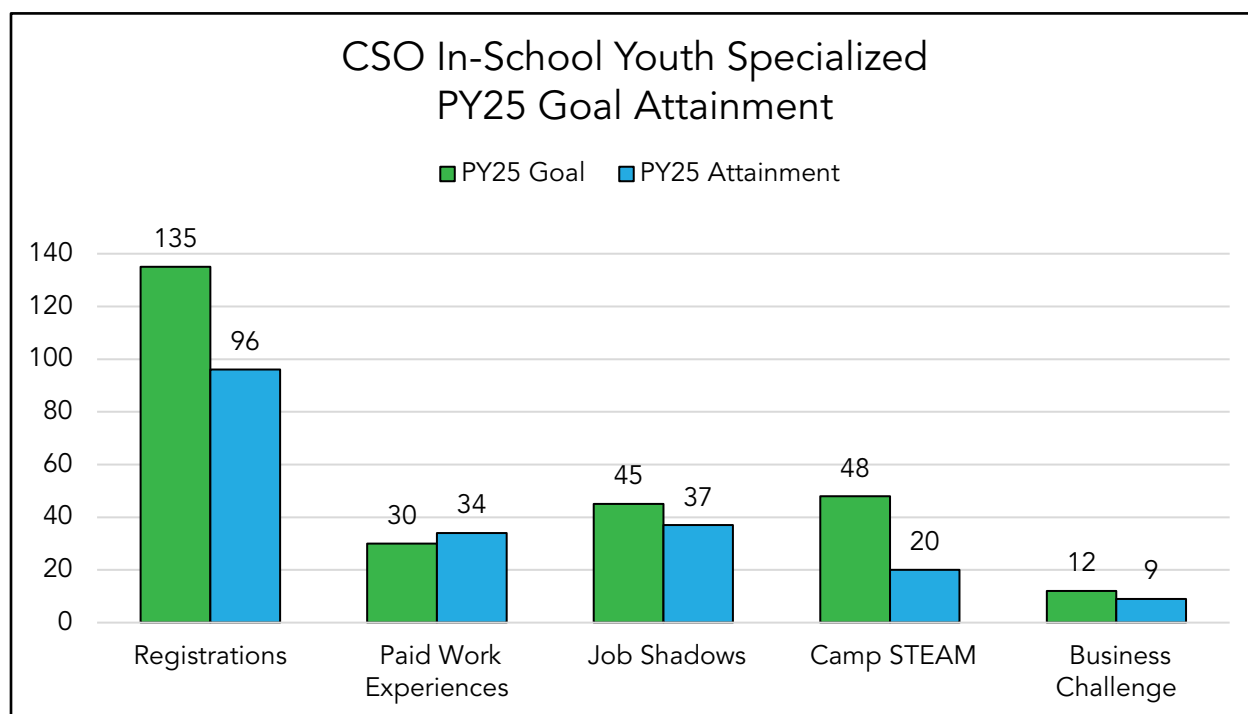
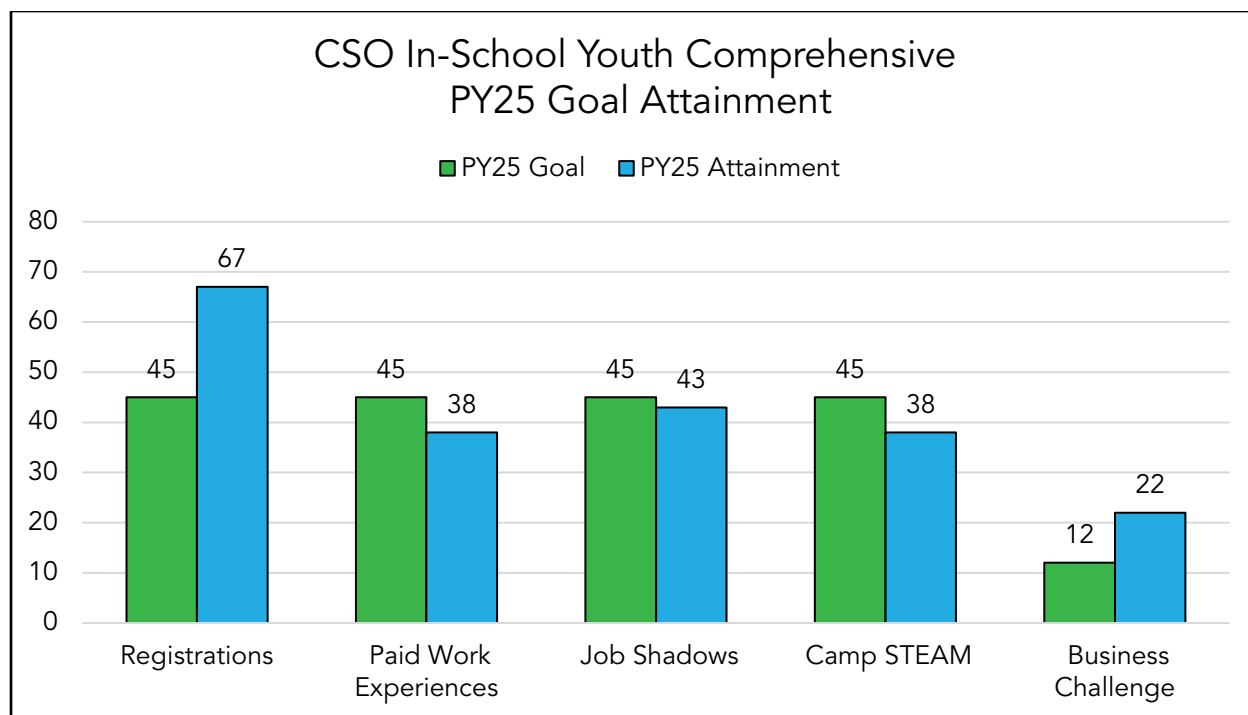
Bridges to the Future In-School Youth Program Goal Attainment

PY25: July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026

Program Provider: CSO

Program Element	Program Year Goal	Program Year Attainment	% of goal reached
Comprehensive Registrations	45	67	149%
Comprehensive Paid Work Experiences	45	38	84%
Comprehensive Job Shadows	45	43	96%
Comprehensive Camp STEAM	45	38	84%
Comprehensive Business Challenge	12	22	183%
Specialized Registrations	135	96	71%
Specialized Paid Work Experiences	30	34	113%
Specialized Job Shadows	45	37	82%
Specialized Camp STEAM	48	20	42%
Specialized Business Challenge	12	9	75%
School Districts Receiving Outreach Services (BEP Grant)	16	19	119%



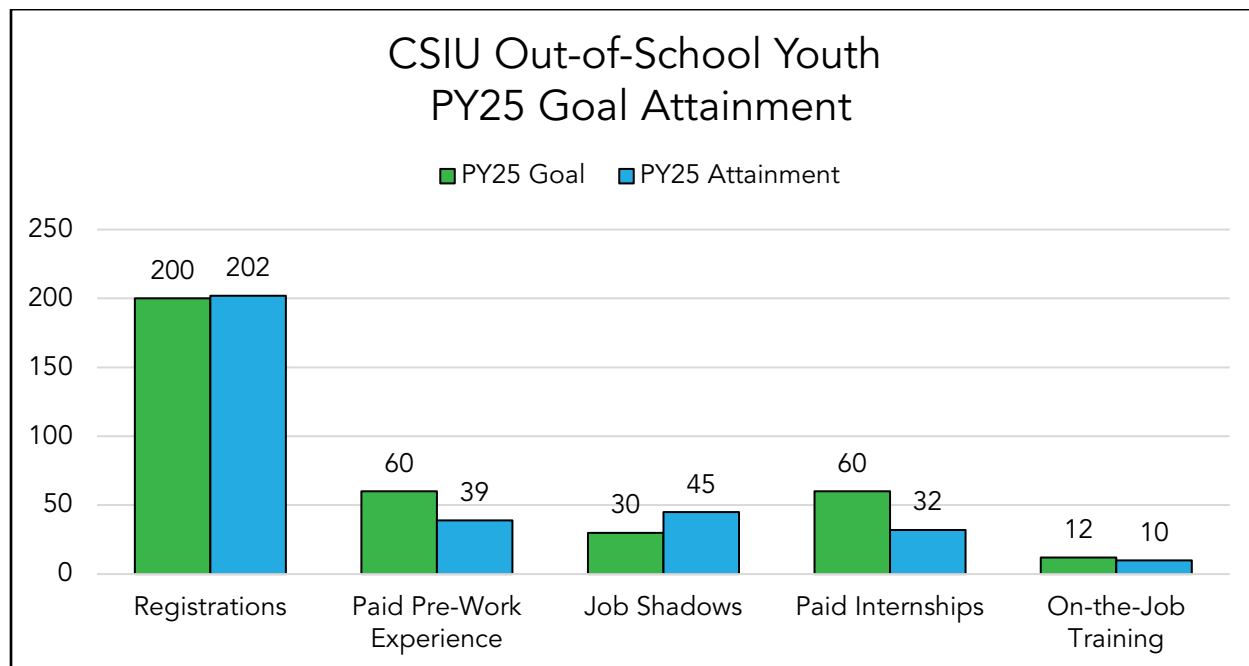


YES to the Future Out-of-School Youth Program Goal Attainment

PY25: July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026

Program Provider: CSIU

Program Element	Program Year Goal	Program Year Attainment	% of goal reached
Registrations	200	202	101%
Paid Pre-Work Experience	60	39	65%
Job Shadows	30	45	150%
Paid Internships	60	32	53%
On-the-Job Training	12	10	83%



Local Elected Official Board Joint Meeting Action Items September 16, 2026

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2026 joint WDB/LEO Board meeting.

Motion:

Second:

Fiscal Year 2027 Competitive Funding Portfolio As of September 9, 2026

GRANTS CARRIED OVER FROM FY26

Program/Project Name & Funding Information	Funding Available	Grant Objectives
Business Education Partnership (PY24) PA Dept. of Labor & Industry September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026 (Extended through December 31, 2026)	\$150,000	• Provide outreach services to students across the 31 public school districts in the region to increase career awareness and readiness. • Support the <i>What's So Cool About Manufacturing?</i> challenge in partnership with Innovative Manufacturers' Center, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, BLaST Intermediate Unit, and the Foundation of the Columbia Montour Chamber. • Facilitate Student/Educator in the Workplace Events • Continue license for Virtual Reality career awareness. • Support two STEM Aviation Camps in partnership with Susquehanna STEM to the Skies. • Provide scholarships for Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week.
Industry Partnerships PA Dept. of Labor & Industry January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 (Extended to June 30, 2027)	\$150,000	• Supports the development/launch of an Industry Partnership for Agriculture. • Includes funds for incumbent worker training. • Goals include: improved worker retention, increased prosperity, increased job quality, and expansion of the partnership members' employee base to include marginalized populations with barriers.
Industry Partnerships PA Dept. of Labor & Industry January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 (Extended to June 30, 2027)	\$175,000	• Supports the development/launch of an Industry Partnership for the Building & Construction sector. • Includes funds for incumbent worker training. • Goals include: improved worker retention, increased prosperity, increased job quality, and expansion of the partnership members' employee base to include marginalized populations with barriers.
School-To-Work PA Dept. of Labor & Industry June 1, 2025 – May 1, 2027	\$103,592	• Partnering with the IBEW Local 812 and Williamsport Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Advance Central PA will develop an electrical/construction pre-apprenticeship for high school students and recent graduates, developing a pipeline to the IBEW's long-standing Registered Apprenticeship program.
ARPA Digital Technology Program- Round Two PA Broadband Development Authority July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026	\$246,925	• Laptops for customer use will be distributed throughout the PA CareerLink® sites, including The Link; usage will include job preparation and job search, digital literacy, and health access and monitoring.

Supporting Pennsylvania's Advanced Manufacturing Sector Through Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships PA Dept. of Labor & Industry January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028	\$400,000	In a collaboration with Central PA Institute of Science and Technology (CPI), funds will be used to build, support and register a new pre-apprenticeship program in advanced manufacturing with a concentration on serving populations traditionally underserved in apprenticeships.
---	------------------	--

NEW GRANTS SECURED

Program/Project Name & Funding Information	Funding Available	Grant Objectives
N/A		

GRANTS SUBMITTED

Program/Project Name & Funding Information	Funding Requested	Grant Objectives
Manufacturing Training to Careers PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development	\$25,000 (as part of a larger grant submitted by KCSD and TTP)	- The project will fund a short-term employer-driven advanced manufacturing training initiative to prepare high school seniors and adults for entry-level employment in multiple manufacturing disciplines. - Training includes classroom and hands on training plus incentivized internships with a goal to serve 24 participants over two cohorts.
Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Appalachian Regional Commission	\$775,000 (as part of larger grant submitted by DRIVE)	- Advance Central PA will oversee and implement pre-apprenticeship, internships, and soft-skill academy components of a proposed Central PA Talent Pipeline initiative designed to establish a permanent employer-led workforce structure across the WDA. Requires a 50% - 65% cash or in-kind match.
Engage! PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development	\$9,500 (as part of larger grant submitted by SEDA-COG)	Advance Central PA staff will conduct ten (10) interviews of executives from local companies to discuss their needs and match them with solutions for economic stability and/or growth.
Business Education Partnership (PY26) PA Dept. of Labor & Industry	\$150,000	- Provide outreach services to students across the 31 public school districts in the region to increase career awareness and readiness. - Support the <i>What's So Cool About Manufacturing?</i> challenge - Facilitate Student/Educator in the Workplace Events - Continue license for Virtual Reality career awareness. - Support two STEM Aviation Camps in partnership with Susquehanna STEM to the Skies. - Provide scholarships for Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week. - Career Exploration Nights connecting students and their guardians with industry experts.

GRANTS BEING EXPLORED

Funding Source/Grant Name	Funding to be Requested	Grant Details
Manufacturing Training to Careers PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development Applications accepted on a rolling basis	TBD	This grant opportunity is focused on engagement of students in awareness building activities to understand the vast career opportunities available in manufacturing, while helping regional manufacturers build a talent pipeline.
School to Work- Round 7 PA Dept. of Labor & Industry New announcement TBD	TBD	This grant is anticipated to have a focus on building programs to fill current and anticipated labor market needs by increasing workforce training and partnership programs, including pre-apprenticeship, to develop the skills of students in Grades 9 through 12 through various projects.

GRANTS NOT FUNDED

Program/Project Name & Funding Information	Funding Requested	Grant Objectives
N/A		



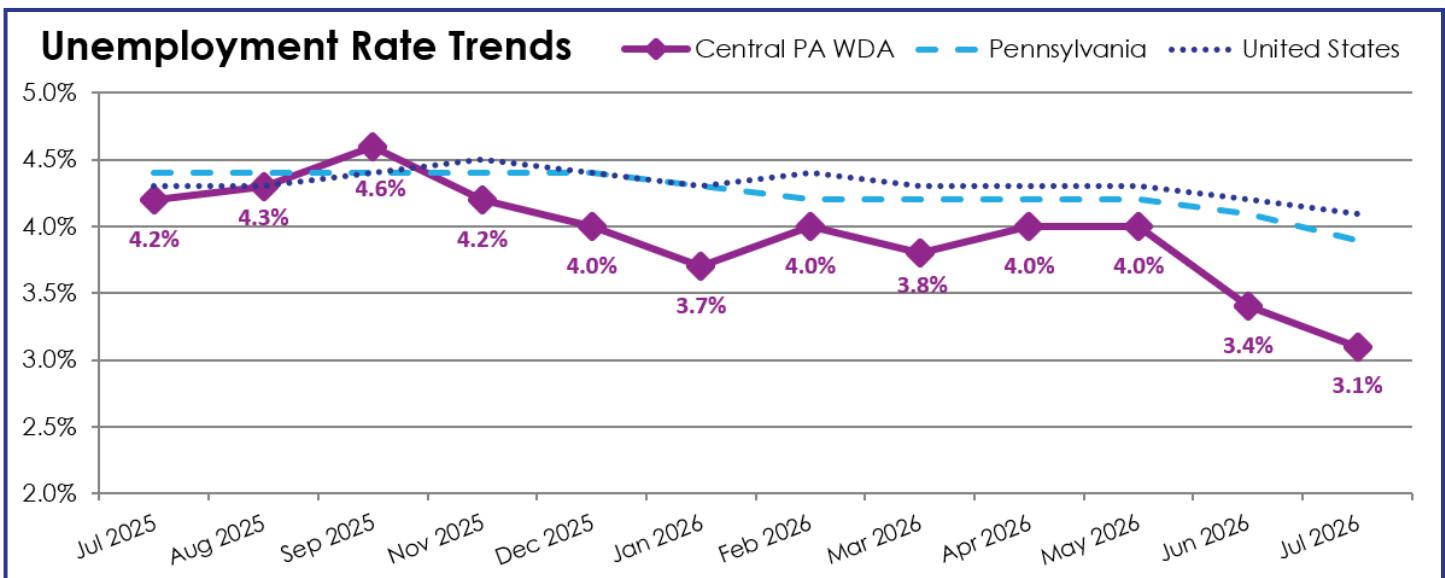
This report provides an overview of the labor market conditions in the Central Workforce Development Area (WDA), which includes Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union Counties. In July 2026, the labor force contracted as both the employed and unemployed populations declined, resulting in a lower unemployment rate over the month.

Civilian Labor Force	
294,000	
Monthly Change	Annual Change
↓ -1,800	↑ 6,400

Employed Population	
284,800	
Monthly Change	Annual Change
↓ -900	↑ 9,400

Unemployed Population	
9,200	
Monthly Change	Annual Change
↓ -900	↓ -2,900

Unemployment Rates			
Region	July 2026	Monthly Change	Annual Change
Centre County	3.0%	↓	↓
Clinton County	3.7%	↓	↓
Columbia County	4.0%	↓	↓
Lycoming County	4.0%	↓	↓
Mifflin County	2.7%	↓	↓
Montour County	2.3%	↓	↓
Northumberland County	3.4%	↓	↓
Snyder County	3.0%	↓	↓
Union County	3.0%	↓	↓
Central WDA	3.1%	↓	↓
Pennsylvania	3.9%	↓	↓
United States	4.1%	↓	↓



October 2025 Labor Market Data was not collected due to a lapse in federal appropriations.

July 2026 Preliminary Seasonally Adjusted Data (Downloaded September 2026)

Provided by the Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. CWIA is not liable for the content as presented nor does CWIA necessarily endorse the statements made herein.

Central WDA County Labor Market Report

July 2026

This report provides a detailed overview of the labor market conditions for the nine counties that comprise the Central Workforce Development Area (WDA).

Civilian Labor Force					
Region	July 2026	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
Centre County	78,400	↓	-100	↑	2,500
Clinton County	17,500	↔	0	↑	400
Columbia County	31,500	↔	0	↑	400
Lycoming County	53,500	↔	0	↑	1,600
Mifflin County	23,900	↔	0	↑	500
Montour County	9,500	↔	0	↑	200
Northumberland County	53,300	↓	-300	↑	1,400
Snyder County	19,400	↑	100	↑	100
Union County	17,700	↓	-200	↑	700
Central WDA	294,000	↓	-1,800	↑	6,400
Pennsylvania	6,651,000	↑	8,000	↑	124,000
United States	169,094,000	↓	-264,000	↓	-1,318,000

Employed Population					Unemployed Population			
Region	July 2026	Monthly Change		Annual Change	July 2026	Monthly Change		Annual Change
Centre County	76,000	↓	-100	↑ 2,700	2,400	↓	-100	↓ -200
Clinton County	16,800	↔	0	↑ 500	600	↓	-100	↓ -200
Columbia County	30,200	↔	0	↑ 700	1,300	↔	0	↓ -200
Lycoming County	51,300	↔	0	↑ 1,900	2,200	↔	0	↓ -300
Mifflin County	23,200	↔	0	↑ 700	600	↓	-200	↓ -300
Montour County	9,300	↔	0	↑ 300	200	↓	-100	↓ -100
Northumberland County	51,500	↓	-100	↑ 1,900	1,800	↓	-200	↓ -600
Snyder County	18,800	↑	100	↑ 300	600	↔	0	↓ -200
Union County	17,100	↓	-200	↑ 800	500	↓	-100	↓ -200
Central WDA	284,800	↓	-900	↑ 9,400	9,200	↓	-900	↓ -2,900
Pennsylvania	6,390,000	↑	19,000	↑ 147,000	261,000	↓	-10,000	↓ -23,000
United States	162,177,000	↓	-87,000	↓ -963,000	6,916,000	↓	-178,000	↓ -356,000

July 2026 Preliminary Seasonally Adjusted Data (Downloaded September 2026)

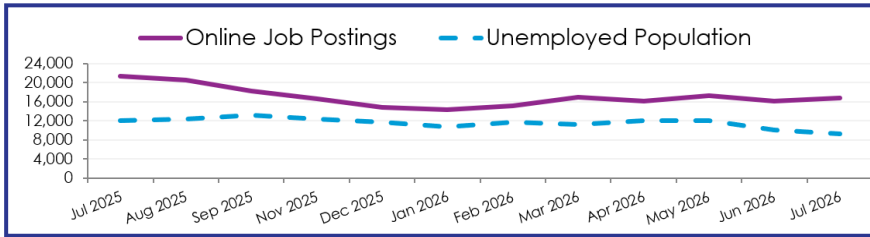
Provided by the Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. CWIA is not liable for the content as presented nor does CWIA necessarily endorse the statements made herein.

Unemployment & Online Job Postings



July 2026

In July 2026, there were 9,200 unemployed jobseekers in the Central WDA who are eligible and actively searching for employment. If every individual filled an online job posting, 7,590 postings would remain unfilled.



Online Job Postings	
16,790	
Monthly Change	Annual Change
↑ 694	↓ -4,494

Occupational Grouping	Online Job Postings July 2026	Unemployed July 2026
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	3,591	372
Sales and Related Occupations	1,353	779
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	1,351	1,322
Management Occupations	1,246	1,009
Healthcare Support Occupations	1,062	126
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	1,010	1,368
Production Occupations	836	1,439
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	817	844
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	714	470
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	598	166
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	544	422
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	474	130
Community and Social Service Occupations	467	189
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	426	345
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	417	227
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	397	150
Construction and Extraction Occupations	389	1,223
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	342	17
Protective Service Occupations	243	205
Unclassified Occupation	231	0
Personal Care and Service Occupations	170	150
Legal Occupations	55	31
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	52	54
Military-only occupations	7	1

Unemployed data provided by Lightcast; derived from Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and Lightcast databases; based on 12-month averages; unclassified indicates no previous work experience or unspecified.



Top Occupations

Unique Job Postings - Advertised Wage

Registered Nurses	870	\$49.42
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	536	\$38.58
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	482	\$14.95
Retail Salespersons	469	\$16.55
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	331	\$31.38
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	291	\$19.51
Physicians, All Other	235	\$144.68
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	226	\$18.03
Production Workers, All Other	222	\$19.02
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	218	\$16.06

Top Industries

Unique Job Postings

Health Care and Social Assistance	3,660
Educational Services	1,874
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,866
Retail Trade	1,644
Manufacturing	961
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	725
Accommodation and Food Services	630
Public Administration	506
Transportation and Warehousing	472
Finance and Insurance	415

Top Employers

Unique Job Postings

Geisinger Health System	1,051
Pennsylvania State University	1,016
Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania	386
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center	363
Aerotek	204
Geisinger Medical Center	189
Spherion Staffing	173
Wellspan Health	154
Sheetz	146
Weis Markets	142

Top Skills

Communication
Customer Service
Operations
Management
Leadership
Sales
Detail Oriented
Problem Solving
Coordinating
Research

Top Qualifications

Valid Driver's License
Registered Nurse (RN)
Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
Board Certified/Board Eligible
Nurse Practitioner (APRN-CNP)
CDL Class A License

Source: Lightcast, 2026.3 • Updated: September 2026

Advertised wage is the median hourly wage associated with the online job posting occupation.

Pennsylvania Unemployment Rates



July 2026

County			
Montour County	2.3%	Indiana County	3.5%
Chester County	2.5%	Lebanon County	3.5%
Cumberland County	2.5%	Armstrong County	3.6%
Mifflin County	2.7%	Clearfield County	3.6%
Montgomery County	2.7%	Juniata County	3.6%
Butler County	2.8%	Susquehanna County	3.6%
Sullivan County	2.8%	Wayne County	3.6%
Bucks County	2.9%	Blair County	3.7%
Elk County	2.9%	Carbon County	3.7%
Perry County	2.9%	Clinton County	3.7%
Centre County	3.0%	Lawrence County	3.7%
Fulton County	3.0%	Lehigh County	3.7%
Lancaster County	3.0%	Somerset County	3.7%
Snyder County	3.0%	York County	3.7%
Union County	3.0%	Lackawanna County	3.8%
Allegheny County	3.1%	McKean County	3.8%
Bradford County	3.1%	Wyoming County	3.8%
Clarion County	3.1%	Greene County	3.9%
Crawford County	3.2%	Columbia County	4.0%
Warren County	3.2%	Erie County	4.0%
Washington County	3.2%	Forest County	4.0%
Westmoreland County	3.2%	Huntingdon County	4.0%
Adams County	3.3%	Lycoming County	4.0%
Beaver County	3.3%	Pike County	4.0%
Bedford County	3.3%	Berks County	4.1%
Delaware County	3.3%	Schuylkill County	4.1%
Dauphin County	3.4%	Monroe County	4.2%
Franklin County	3.4%	Cambria County	4.4%
Jefferson County	3.4%	Fayette County	4.4%
Mercer County	3.4%	Philadelphia County	4.5%
Northampton County	3.4%	Cameron County	4.6%
Northumberland County	3.4%	Luzerne County	4.6%
Tioga County	3.4%	Potter County	4.7%
Venango County	3.4%		

Workforce Development Area (WDA)	
Chester County WDA	2.5%
Montgomery County WDA	2.7%
Bucks County WDA	2.9%
Lancaster County WDA	3.0%
South Central WDA	3.0%
Central WDA	3.1%
Three Rivers WDA	3.1%
Tri-County WDA	3.2%
Delaware County WDA	3.3%
Northwest WDA	3.3%
Southwest Corner WDA	3.3%
Northern Tier WDA	3.4%
Southern Alleghenies WDA	3.4%
Lehigh Valley WDA	3.5%
West Central WDA	3.5%
Westmoreland and Fayette	3.5%
North Central WDA	3.6%
Lackawanna County WDA	3.8%
Pocono Counties WDA	4.0%
Berks County WDA	4.1%
Luzerne-Schuylkill Counties	4.4%
Philadelphia County WDA	4.5%

For Comparison Purposes	
Pennsylvania	3.9%
United States	4.1%

Seasonally adjusted, preliminary data provided by the Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), PA Department of Labor and Industry (September 2026). CWIA is not liable for the content as presented nor does CWIA necessarily endorse the statements made herein.

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

Executive Committee, Workforce Development Board, and Local Elected Official Board

February 13 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
March 18 <i>Third Wednesday</i>	LEO Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. WDB/LEO Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. to Noon
April 10 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
May 8 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
June 17 <i>Third Wednesday</i>	Annual Meeting of the Members (LEO) 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. WBD/LEO Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. to Noon
August 14 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
September 16 <i>Third Wednesday</i>	LEO Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. WDB/LEO Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. to Noon
October 9 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
November 13 <i>Second Friday</i>	Executive Committee 10:00 a.m. to Noon
December 16 <i>Third Wednesday</i>	LEO Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. WDB/LEO Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Unless otherwise notified of Webinar/Teleconference, **Executive Committee Meetings** are scheduled to be held at the Advance Central PA office and **LEO & WDB/LEO Meetings** are scheduled to be held at the Union County Government Center, Lewisburg.

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Membership

Jonah Howe, Chairperson
PPL Electric Utilities

Vice Chairperson
Vacant

Jay Alexander, Treasurer
Wayne Township Landfill

Michele Foust, Immediate Past Chairperson
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.

Jamie Aurand
WeCare at sycamore

Keith Koppenhaver
IUOE, Local #66

Jim Beamer
IBEW, Local #812

Lynn Kuhns
Apex Homes of PA, LLC

Joshua Bell
SEKISUI KYDEX, LLC

Madelyn Kutz
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Kenneth Chappell
Lycoming/Tioga County Assistance Office

Jonathan Ritter
Playworld

Amanda Craig-Bradley
*Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of
Commerce*

Stephanie Servose
Geisinger

Misty Dion
*Roads to Freedom Center for Independent
Living of NCPA*

Jenna Witherite
Central Intermediate Unit 10

Bruce Jones
*Bureau of Workforce Partnership &
Operations*

Dave Zartman
Zartman Construction

Local Elected Official Board (LEO) Membership

Commissioner Robert Postal, Chairperson
Mifflin County

Commissioner David Kovach, Vice Chairperson
Columbia County

Commissioner Steven Dershem
Centre County

Commissioner Mark Mussina
Lycoming County

Commissioner Angela Harding
Clinton County

Commissioner Chuck Steininger
Snyder County

Commissioner Rebecca Dressler
Montour County

Commissioner Stacy Richards
Union County

Commissioner Joe Klebon
Northumberland County

Standing Committees of the Workforce Development Board

Executive Committee

Jonah Howe, Chair
Michele Foust, Immediate Past Chair
Jay Alexander
Jim Beamer
Kenneth Chappell
Rob Postal*
Jon Ritter
Dave Zartman

Staff Contact: Erica Mulberger

Audit/Finance Committee

Jay Alexander, Chair
Jamie Aurand
Angela Harding*
Stacy Richards*

Staff Contact: Brooke Gessner

Governance Committee

Dave Zartman, Chair
Angela Harding*
Rob Postal*

Staff Contact: Erica Mulberger

EARN Committee

Kenneth Chappell, Chair
Julie Eister^
Hope Enright^
Tara Hough^
Bruce Jones
Michael Lisnock^
Crystal Montgomery^
Erica Mulberger^

Staff Contact: Patrick O'Connor

Personnel Committee

Michele Foust, Chair
Jay Alexander
Jonah Howe
Dave Zartman

Staff Contact: Erica Mulberger

Policy & Performance Committee

Jim Beamer, Chair
Amanda Craig-Bradley
Madelyn Kutz

Staff Contact: Marca O'Hargan

Youth Committee

Jon Ritter, Chair
Joshua Bell
Amanda Craig-Bradley
Jonah Howe
Stephanie Servose
Jenna Witherite

Staff Contact: Allison Grose

* LEO Board Member

^ Non-WDB/LEO Board Member

Staff Listing

Policy and Management

Supporting the Workforce Development Board, Executive Committee, Governance Committee, Personnel Committee and Local Elected Official Board

Erica Mulberger, Executive Director: Responsible for overall management of Advance Central PA including finance, operations, policy and projects. Reports to the Chair of the Workforce Development Board. emulberger@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Kelly Walter, Office/Board Coordinator: Responsible for administrative support for Advance Central PA and all committees; assists with accounts payable and receivable. Reports to the Executive Director. kwalter@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Finance Department

Supporting the Executive Committee, Audit/Finance Committee and Local Elected Official Board

Brooke Gessner, Finance Manager: Responsible for management, supervision and reporting of financial resources for Advance Central PA; budgeting, fiscal related policy and procedure, oversight of contracts and subcontractors and property management. Reports to the Executive Director. bgessner@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Cheryl Reish, Senior Accounting Coordinator: Responsible for bookkeeping and accounting activity, payroll, accounts payable and receivable and electronic fund management. Reports to the Finance Manager. creish@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Amy Keefer, Fiscal Coordinator: Responsible for providing direct support relating to: contracting; procurement; inventory; database management and oversight of management information systems, and operational functions. Reports to Finance Manager. akeefer@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Operations Department

Supporting the Executive Committee, Employer Strategies Committee, Local Elected Official Board, EARN Committee, Policy & Performance Committee and Youth Committee

Korrie Lucas, Assistant Director: Responsible for policy and program management and oversight for EARN, WIOA, and other workforce programs in the PA CareerLink® sites. Reports to the Executive Director. klucas@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Allison Grose, Youth Programs Coordinator: Responsible for policy and program support for WIOA In-School Youth and Out-of-School Youth programs, TANF Youth programs and

other youth initiatives in the PA CareerLink® sites and schools. Reports to the Assistant Director. agrose@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Jamie Mercaldo, Business Engagement Coordinator: Responsible for policy and program support focusing on business as the primary customer. Oversees industry cluster activities and special grants that are obtained which involve local employers. Reports to the Assistant Director. jmercald@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Patrick O'Connor, Adult Programs Coordinator: Responsible for policy and program support for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs and Department of Human Services EARN programs in the PA CareerLink® sites. Reports to the Assistant Director. poconnor@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Marca O'Hargan, Compliance Monitor: Responsible for monitoring PA CareerLink® sites and programs including but not limited to Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth and EARN programs. Reports to the Assistant Director. mohargan@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Gabrielle Randall, Research & Grants Coordinator: Responsible for performing industry cluster and labor market research for Advance Central PA and supporting project partners and utilizing this information to help write and coordinate grant implementation. Reports to the Assistant Director. grandall@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Morgan Whitteker, Communications Coordinator: Responsible for outreach strategy and implementation with a goal of increasing the public's awareness of the public workforce network and use of the PA CareerLink®. Reports to the Assistant Director. mwhitteker@AdvanceCentralPA.org

PA CareerLink®

Responsible for managing and coordinating the daily functions and operations of PA CareerLink® sites to ensure compliance and alignment with certification requirements, the State Workforce Plan, Advance Central PA's Local and Regional Plans, and all agreements and policies. Functionally supervised by the PA CareerLink® Operator.

Rachael Ulmer, PA CareerLink® Administrator: Responsible for integrated services, continuous quality improvement and outstanding customer service while assessing and addressing community workforce needs for the following PA CareerLink® sites: Lycoming County, Clinton County, and Columbia/Montour Counties. rulmer@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Matthew Rickert, PA CareerLink® Administrator: Responsible for integrated services, continuous quality improvement and outstanding customer service while assessing and addressing community workforce needs for the following PA CareerLink® sites: Mifflin County, Northumberland/Snyder/Union Counties, and Centre County. mricket@AdvanceCentralPA.org

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Eligibility for Title I Job Seeker Programming

As the local Workforce Development Board, Advance Central PA is responsible for competitively procuring and overseeing WIOA Title I services, including funds allocated for the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs. Advance Central PA utilizes the Youth allocation to focus specifically on the targeted disconnected Out-of-School Youth (OSY) population described herein.

Eligibility criteria for each funding stream/program must be demonstrated in accordance with federal requirements, with supporting documentation saved in the case record. This brief is not all-inclusive.

Adult Eligibility

Adult funds provide the most flexibility, therefore this funding stream is used to provide workforce services to individuals who do not meet Dislocated Worker or Youth eligibility.

Federal Requirements:

1. Social Security Number
2. Citizenship/Eligible to Work
3. Age 18 or older
4. Selective Service (if applicable)

Additional Advance Central PA Requirement:

- High School Diploma or equivalent, or participating in GED preparation classes with Title II

Adult Priority of Service (POS)

Veterans and their spouses are always the highest priority for service delivery. Additionally, WIOA requires that a minimum of 51% of eligible Adults must be from POS populations according to the following eligibility requirements.

Federal Requirements (one or more of the following):

1. Recipient of public assistance (SNAP, TANF, SSI, or other state/local public assistance)
2. Low income (one or more of the following)
 - a. Recipient of public assistance
 - b. Individual in a family with total income below the poverty line or 70% of the lower living standard income level
 - c. Homeless
 - d. Foster youth
 - e. A recipient of, or is eligible to receive, a free or reduced-price lunch
 - f. Individual with a disability with individual income below the poverty line or 70% of the lower living standard income level.
3. Basic Skills Deficient (adult unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function on the job, in the participant's family, or in society.)

Additional Advance Central PA Criteria:

- As allowed by statute, Advance Central PA has also defined discretionary Adult POS for the following groups:
 - Parent of a child who is eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch
 - Ex-offender
 - Age 55+ with income lower than the self-sufficiency standard
 - Individual with a disability with income lower than the self-sufficiency standard
 - Others with income below the self-sufficiency standard

Dislocated Worker Eligibility

Dislocated Worker funds support individuals who have lost their jobs due to layoffs, economic shifts, or other dislocation events so they can re-enter the workforce.

Federal Requirements:

- Social Security Number
- Citizenship/Eligible to Work
- Age 18 or older
- Selective Service (if applicable)
- One or more of the following:
 - Terminated or laid off or has received notice of termination or layoff from employment and is eligible for Unemployment Compensation (UC)
 - Permanent Closure/Substantial Layoff
 - General Announcement of Closure
 - Formerly Self-Employed/Currently Unemployed
 - Displaced Homemaker
 - Spouse of a Member of the Active Duty Armed Forces

Out-of-School Youth (OSY) Eligibility

Out-of-School Youth funds are designed to assist young adults who face significant barriers in successfully transitioning to employment and/or education.

Federal Requirements:

- Social Security Number
- Citizenship/Eligible to Work
- Age 16 - 24 (at the time of registration)
- Selective Service (if applicable)
- One or more of the following barriers:
 - School dropout
 - Within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended for the most recent complete school year calendar quarter
 - Secondary school diploma or equivalent, low income, and Basic Skills Deficient (BSD) or English Language Learner
 - Offender
 - Homeless or runaway
 - Foster care or aged out of foster care, or eligible for assistance under section 477 of the Social Security Act, or out-of-home placement
 - Pregnant or Parenting
 - Disability
 - Requires additional assistance as defined by the local WDB to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment, and low-income

Advance Central PA definition of "requires additional assistance":

- Received or part of a family who received medical assistance, LIHEAP, or public housing/rent subsidy within the past 6 months; or
- Lacks a significant work history

Eligibility for EARN Programming

Advance Central PA has a contract with the PA Dept. of Human Services to procure and oversee specific employment and training programming with funding streams to serve TANF recipients and SNAP recipients. This brief provides a high-level overview; eligibility is simplified for brevity without comprehensive and exhaustive requirements and nuances shown.

EARN Eligibility

Eligibility for EARN is completed by the County Assistance Offices (CAO). The CAO refers EARN participants as:

- TANF- Recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- ETANF- Recipients of Extended Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (60 months or more)
- SNAP PEERs- Recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- SNAP Volunteers- Recipients of benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program who volunteer for EARN and do not qualify for TANF or ETANF

Federal Requirements for TANF:

1. Social Security Number
2. US citizen or eligible non-citizen legally authorized to be in the US (and in the US at least 5 years)
3. PA resident
4. Low income according to Family Size Allowance
5. Live with and care for a child under the age of 18
6. Completion of Agreement of Mutual Responsibility with the CAO (a plan for what the individual agrees they will do so that cash assistance will not be needed: search for work, attend training, apply for social security)
7. Comply with all paternity and child support requirements
8. Work/training requirements are met as applicable

Federal Requirements for SNAP:

1. Social Security Number
2. US citizen or eligible non-citizen legally authorized to be in the US (and in the US at least 5 years)
3. PA resident
4. Comply with all paternity and child support requirements
5. Household income within federal SNAP income guideline limits
6. Work/training requirements are met as applicable

Eligibility for TANF Youth Development Programming

As the local Workforce Development Board, Advance Central PA is responsible for competitively procuring and overseeing TANF Youth Development-funded programs for Youth. TANF Youth Development includes an allocation that Advance Central PA chooses to use for secondary school students, In-School Youth (ISY).

Eligibility criteria must be demonstrated in accordance with state requirements, with supporting documentation saved in the case record. This brief is not all-inclusive.

TANF Youth Development Eligibility

Aligned with WIOA Youth priorities, TANF Youth Development programming allows flexibility in meeting the workforce needs of more young people. In addition to the requirements for eligibility below, as a recipient of funds, Advance Central PA must focus on enrollment of Youth with barriers and report on those barriers and demographics accordingly.

State Requirements for TANF Youth Development:

1. Age 12-24
2. Social Security Number
3. Have proof of identity
4. U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
5. PA Resident
6. Have a personal monthly gross earned income that does not exceed 235% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (\$3,065 for a household of 1)
7. Focus on Youth with barriers:
 - School dropout or identified as at risk of dropping out of school
 - Within the age of compulsory attendance, but has not attended for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter
 - Basic skills deficient
 - English language learner
 - Individual with a disability
 - Court-involved or at risk of involvement
 - Children of an incarcerated parent(s)
 - In foster care or aging out of foster care
 - Homeless or a runaway
 - Pregnant or parenting
 - A migrant
 - In need of additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment

Additional Advance Central PA Target Populations:

- Behind one or more grade levels
- Eligible for free or reduced lunch
- Public Housing, Medical Assistance, or LIHEAP
- Basic Skills Deficient
- English Language Learner

Income Guidelines and Resources

Federal Poverty Income Level and 70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL)

The Federal Poverty Income Level is an annual income calculation used by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to determine eligibility for a variety of federal programs.

LLSIL is a threshold representing 70% of the income needed to meet basic living standards. LLSIL Guidelines are calculated by the US Dept. of Labor for the purpose of determining eligibility for WIOA programs as well as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. WIOA defines the term "low-income individual" as one whose total family annual income does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL.

Federal Poverty Income Level – Revised 1/13/2026

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,960
2	\$21,640
3	\$27,320
4	\$33,000
5	\$38,680
6	\$44,360

70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) – Revised 4/22/2026

Family Size	Metropolitan Area	Non-Metropolitan Area
1	\$14,486	\$14,056
2	\$23,740	\$23,040
3	\$32,582	\$31,630
4	\$40,222	\$39,038
5	\$47,470	\$46,074
6	\$55,510	\$53,873

Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS) – Revised 2024

The SSS determines the amount of income required for working families to meet basic needs at a minimally adequate level, taking into account family composition, ages of children, and geographic differences in costs. It is calculated by the Centre for Women's Welfare, University of Washington. This measure is highly detailed and requires input of county and specific family information.

Examples of the SSS

County of Residence	# of Adults 18+	# Infants (0-2)	# of Pre-schoolers (3-5)	# of Schoolagers (6-12)	# of Teenagers (13-17)	Annual Combined Wage of Adult(s) to meet SSS
Clinton	1	0	1	1	0	\$61,768
Lycoming	1	0	1	1	0	\$66,317
Union	1	0	1	1	0	\$71,827

TANF Family Size Allowance (FSA) Income Guidelines

TANF eligibility follows the Family Size Allowance (FSA), which went into effect January 1, 1990. Different Counties have different income limits. The budget group is not eligible for Cash Assistance for a calendar month if the net countable income equals or is greater than the budget group's FSA.

Number of Persons in Budget Group	Maximum Gross Monthly Income: Centre, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Union	Maximum Gross Monthly Income: Clinton, Mifflin, Snyder	Maximum Gross Monthly Income: Northumberland
1	\$205	\$195	\$174
2	\$316	\$305	\$279
3	\$403	\$393	\$365
4	\$497	\$479	\$454
5	\$589	\$569	\$543
6	\$670	\$647	\$614

SNAP Income Guidelines

SNAP income guidelines vary based on family composition, whether the household includes only cash assistance/SSI recipients or not, and other regulatory policies. Income limits are determined by the CAO, with maximum gross income equal to either 200% or 130% of the Federal Poverty Income Guideline.

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income 200% of FPIG	Maximum Gross Monthly Income 130% of FPIG
1	\$2,610	\$1,696
2	\$3,526	\$2,292
3	\$4,442	\$2,888
4	\$5,360	\$3,483
5	\$6,276	\$4,079
6	\$7,192	\$4,675

TANF Youth Development Income Guidelines (235% of Federal Poverty Income Guideline)

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Maximum Gross Annual Income
1	\$3,065	\$36,778