

**DESE Report for  
Sheltered Workshop Program  
January 29, 2013**

**Budget:**

The available funds for the Sheltered Workshop Program in FY-13 are \$24,039,953 (inclusive of the withholding) of which \$14,928,538 has been paid in the first seven months of the fiscal year. The FY-13 balance remaining is \$9,111,415. With the current monthly average expenditure of \$2,132,648, the projected shortfall is 15 workdays. Please keep in mind that this projection does not take into account potential closures due to severe winter weather of other catastrophic events that may affect attendance.

The current average number of active Certified Workers in the DESE system is 6,942 (- 24 from previous report), the current average FTE number is 5,678 (- 258 from previous report) and the number of persons on the “waiting to be hired” list is 1,385 (+ 79 from previous report).

**DESE-EESW:**

We have been receiving many requests for guidance by the Department regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Although we have been trying to keep up with its current requirements, we cannot offer direct guidance on its provisions since they are not our statute and regulations. We strongly recommend that competent financial, legal and insurance counsel and guidance be obtained from competent and professional sources.

We do know that several provisions took effect on January 1, 2013 and strongly suggest that you begin following its requirements. We also know that ACA will be administered by three federal agencies ( US Department of the Treasury-IRS, US Department of Health and Human Services-SSA and the US Department of Labor-WH) but that a complete set of coordinating rules and interagency agreements have not been completed. We will try to keep up with the changes and rulings and pass them on as best we can.

**MODOLIR:**

As of January 1, 2013, the state Minimum Wage increased from \$7.25 to \$7.35. Although this may not (but it may in some cases) affect the minimum wage for Certified Workers it will definitely affect non-certified employees and staff. Be sure that you are in compliance with this change.

**US DOL-WH:**

The change in the state Minimum Wage has prompted a requirement with US DOL-WH. Keep in mind that you will be required to conduct a Prevailing Wage Survey in February 2013. If an increase in the Prevailing Wage is determined, there will be a back wage liability retroactive to January 1, 2013 for all workers paid at piece or hourly rates.