

DESE Report for the  
Sheltered Workshop Program  
July 30, 2014

**Budget:**

The FY-15 current available appropriation for the Sheltered Workshop Program is \$24,039,953. The FY-15 July request and payment was \$1,999,028. If this rate of expenditure is maintained for the remainder of the fiscal year, there is no projected or anticipated shortfall. The July request/payment is the first for FY-15 and may not be indicative of a true average of monthly expenditures for future requests/payments or projections.

Currently there are 6,998 Certified Workers employed in the workshops (-42 from previous report), the current FTE (30 hours/week) is 5,604 (+116 from previous report), and the "Waiting to be Hired" list is 1,581 (+6 from previous report). The average hourly wage is \$3.13 (+ \$0.07 from previous report) and the number of hours worked in this first reporting period is 644,130 hours.

**DESE-EESW:**

The office is in the process of reviewing the impending changes to the "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" (WIOA) and coordinating with appropriate and related agencies in its eventual implementation. These changes will affect several procedures for employee eligibility to the program and accountability for employment outcomes of persons with disabilities. We will provide the Workshop management with updates as to what those changes will be and requirements of the workshops, if any.

**US-DOL—WH/OSHA:**

As the Section 14, c audits conducted by the Wage and Hour Division continue, the biggest areas of scrutiny remains to be the Prevailing Wages, complete and accurate Task Analyses, and Worker Evaluations (especially those paid at hourly rates). All workshops are encouraged to review the process and procedure to ensure that required regulatory obligations to pay Commensurate Wages under the provisions of Section 14,c are met.

OSHA is conducting inspections throughout the system. Their primary area of review appears to be electrical safety especially related to Lockout/Tag-out of power equipment. Be sure that all unattended/unused equipment energy sources are neutralized to prevent inadvertent activation or use by unauthorized personnel. Be sure to have all machine and operator training records be current and available for their review. Keep records current for all applicable safety programs. It appears that the primary industry focus is that of recycling operations

**Training:**

Two of the five Regional Safety Training seminars sponsored by SWIM, MAWM, and DESE are completed; the remaining three sessions will continue through October. So far, the sessions have been well attended.

The OSHA lead investigator from the Kansas City District Office has agreed to make a presentation at the October 7<sup>th</sup> MASWM conference. Managers are encouraged to send any questions they may have to Aaron Martin, MASWM Training Committee Chairman, where they will be summarized and made available to the presenter prior to the conference in an effort to assure anonymity as well as maximize efficiency.