

# **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

## **MISSION**

The Department of Labor (DOL) helps prepare the people of our State for employment, and delivers dozens of services that help people find jobs and employers find workers. The Department administers Federal Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who have lost jobs through no fault of their own. DOL also enforces regulations that maintain safety and health in the workplace and ensure fair compensation.

## **ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING**

The Department is headed by a Commissioner and is organized into six programs: Employment and Training; Occupational Safety and Health; Labor Standards; Unemployment Insurance; Employment Relations Board; and Administration.

The Department of Labor's Central Office is located in Albany. The Department also has 71 Employment Service Centers located throughout the State and eight employment service regional offices, located in Endicott, Hicksville, New York City, Rochester, Glens Falls, Buffalo, Utica and White Plains. In addition, the Department has nine worker protection district offices which enforce child labor laws, foster workplace health and safety, and ensure that employees are paid in accordance with provisions of the Labor Law. Offices are staffed based upon the workload in each geographic area.

## **FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

The Department of Labor will have a workforce of 4,591 employees in SFY 2000-01. Approximately 86 percent of these positions are financed by Federal grants; ten percent are supported by fees and assessments; and the remaining four percent are paid by State tax dollars from the General Fund.

General Fund appropriations will provide partial support for agency administration, job training, welfare employment services, and enforcement activities as well as funding for the Employment Relations Board (ERB). ERB helps to mediate disputes between private sector employers and employees to avoid and settle strikes.

General Fund and Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block grant appropriations totaling \$8,958,700 will support the current level of Youth Education, Employment and Training program (YEETP) contracts that serve economically disadvantaged youth. The use of TANF dollars in support of some YEETP contracts reflects the State's continuing efforts to use Federal funds wherever feasible to provide General Fund savings without reducing service levels. In addition, a General Fund appropriation of \$2,287,000 will continue support for Green Teams program contracts that provide vocational training and work experience for approximately 300 youth and 100 adults.

Federal Fund appropriations support approximately 27 percent of the Department's overall budget. Specific programs and activities include Unemployment Insurance, re-employment services for persons who may be affected adversely by international trade agreements, and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) services that will replace the Job Training Partnership Act program on July 1, 2000. Federally funded local assistance appropriation authority includes \$336 million for 2000-01 from WIA and the close-out of JTPA.

Under the State Welfare Reform Act of 1997, the Department is responsible for supervising social services district operation of welfare employment programs. The programs are supported by the General Fund, Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant dollars, and Federal Food Stamp Employment and Training money. Highlights

## **LABOR**

---

include continued support of the InVest program which helps welfare recipients upgrade skills needed for employment and earn higher wages and provision of the New York Works Block Grant (NYWBG) to social services districts to address specific local employment and training needs including a district option to set-aside up to 25 percent of funding for services to low income former welfare families. Eligibility for work support programs such as InVest and transportation services has been expanded to include families with income up to 200 percent of the poverty level.

Federal appropriations also include funding to assist families that are the victims of natural disasters. Adjustments to federally funded State Operations appropriations mostly reflect additional authority for work training programs.

Fee revenues support approximately one percent of the Department of Labor's overall budget, funding worker protection and compensation enforcement activities and job training programs. These accounts are financed by fees for health and safety inspections, revenue from Workers' Compensation Board assessments, and interest on overdue Unemployment Insurance taxes owed by employers. The Unemployment Insurance benefit appropriation of \$2.5 billion comprises 71 percent of the Department of Labor's overall budget. These benefits are funded from Unemployment Insurance taxes paid by employers.

The Department's budget also includes an appropriation of \$245,000 which partially finances construction projects by local governments to correct workplace hazards.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **JOB SERVICES**

Consistent with requirements under the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA), and in conjunction with local governments, the Department of Labor continues to assist with the expansion of local One-Stop Centers that offer access to a variety of employment services including job referral and placement, education and training, resume preparation, employer information, and support services such as child care and transportation. The Centers benefit employers by providing them with access to worker resumes and information on tax credits, workplace safety issues and apprenticeship services. Department of Labor employment services also help move individuals from welfare to work and help prevent public assistance dependency by focusing on disadvantaged youth, displaced homemakers, and persons who may lose their jobs because of plant closings or relocations.

Through the use of computers and the Internet, the Department of Labor has made it easier for job seekers and employers to use and benefit from agency services. For example, employers and job seekers can immediately access relevant information without assistance from Department staff. In addition, using Federal funds, the Department is implementing new software that will make it easier to match welfare and Unemployment Insurance case management information with job opportunities on various national job bank Internet sites. In program year 1998, the Department served approximately 393,000 individuals and successfully placed an estimated 56,400 individuals in jobs.

In addition to the development of One-Stop Centers across the State, the Department is working with other State and local agencies, community colleges and others to build a workforce development system that provides access to information and services across agency lines regardless of where a person may initially go for assistance — State office, local government office, community service agency or college placement office.

#### **WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)**

Beginning July 1, 2000, the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) will replace the Job Training Partnership Act, providing job training to youth, adults, and dislocated workers.

WIA also will upgrade the skills of those currently working, thus helping employers meet the changing needs of their business operations. Eligible participants can access WIA services through a network of local one-stop centers for the delivery of employment and training services. WIA will also improve customer choice and program effectiveness, as participants will be able to choose training providers based on past performance through the use of vouchers.

Legislation enacted in 1999 established a State Workforce Investment Board that will assist in the development of the State's plan for using WIA funds.

### ***WORKER PROTECTION***

Worker Protection functions are carried out by two Department of Labor programs: Occupational Safety and Health, and Labor Standards.

The Occupational Safety and Health program is responsible for health and safety inspections and granting licenses to qualified persons to operate or handle dangerous equipment or substances. Statistics for recent years show that the Division inspected 19,447 amusement park devices, 906 ski lifts, 7,864 places of public assembly (e.g., bleachers at concerts), and 34,597 commercial boilers. It also reviewed applications for 669 Radioactive Materials licenses and 55,795 asbestos licenses and certificates. The Labor Standards program enforces the Labor Law in such areas as minimum and prevailing wage, child labor, and garment industry registration. Statistics for recent years indicate the Division inspected 1,677 businesses for compliance with child labor laws, and found actual violations in 728 cases (43 percent). It also collected almost \$10 million in back wages, unpaid fringe benefits, and minimum wage underpayments for approximately 18,149 employees.

### ***UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE***

The Unemployment Insurance (UI) program makes weekly payments to eligible unemployed workers who have lost a job through no fault of their own. These temporary payments, available for up to 26 weeks, help workers and their families pay bills and buy basic household items while looking for work.

To help unemployed workers find work as quickly as possible, the Department of Labor operates a Self-Employment program to help workers establish businesses and become self-employed. Workers whom the Department identifies as least likely to find another job without such assistance are referred to this program. Since April 1996 the program has served 7,802 workers. In addition, the Department also operates a re-employment services program to further strengthen efforts to move individuals back to work.

As part of Governor Pataki's continuing efforts to make government more efficient, the Department of Labor operates a telephone claims system that uses computer technology and information received over the phone to determine if applicants are eligible to receive Unemployment Insurance benefits and handle all other processing issues related to an individual's benefits. The system operates through three Tele-Claims Centers located in Troy, Endicott, and New York City that currently process about 62 percent of the statewide claims workload. A second New York City center, and fourth center overall, is scheduled to open by late summer of 2000. This system replaces the less efficient process of requiring DOL staff to determine eligibility from paper forms filled out by applicants at local Department of Labor offices.

# LABOR

## ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS

Category	Available 1999-00	Appropriations Recommended 2000-01	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2000-01
State Operations .....	\$3,008,464,000	\$3,176,380,900	+\$167,916,900	\$478,872,200
Aid To Localities .....	550,180,700	345,287,700	-204,893,000	824,802,000
Capital Projects .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .....	<u>\$3,558,644,700</u>	<u>\$3,521,668,600</u>	<u>-\$36,976,100</u>	<u>\$1,303,674,200</u>

## ALL FUND TYPES LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

2000-01 Recommended Average Fill Level

Program	Available 1999-00	Personal Service (Regular)	Maintenance Undistributed	Total Recommended 2000-01	Change
Administration					
General Fund .....	83	83	.....	83	.....
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	3,943	.....	3,943	3,943	.....
Employment Relations Board					
General Fund .....	14	16	.....	16	+2
Employment and Training					
General Fund .....	48	48	.....	48	.....
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	74	.....	74	74	.....
Labor Standards					
General Fund .....	21	21	.....	21	.....
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	192	173	19	192	.....
Occupational Safety and Health					
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	214	214	.....	214	.....
Total .....	<u>4,589</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>4,036</u>	<u>4,591</u>	<u>+2</u>

## STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS

Fund Type	Available 1999-00	Recommended 2000-01	Change
General Fund .....	\$10,760,900	\$11,474,800	+\$713,900
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	451,167,300	617,834,600	+166,667,300
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	46,535,800	47,071,500	+535,700
Fiduciary Funds .....	2,500,000,000	2,500,000,000	.....
Total .....	<u>\$3,008,464,000</u>	<u>\$3,176,380,900</u>	<u>+\$167,916,900</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 1999-00</u>	<u>Recommended 2000-01</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration			
General Fund .....	\$4,633,700	\$4,881,000	+\$247,300
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	417,067,300	583,734,600	+166,667,300
Employment Relations Board			
General Fund .....	1,811,700	2,043,000	+231,300
Employment and Training			
General Fund .....	3,319,800	3,537,200	+217,400
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	12,205,500	12,284,000	+78,500
Labor Standards			
General Fund .....	995,700	1,013,600	+17,900
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	11,671,700	11,784,500	+112,800
Occupational Safety and Health			
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	22,658,600	23,003,000	+344,400
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	34,100,000	34,100,000	.....
Expendable Trust Funds .....	2,500,000,000	2,500,000,000	.....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$3,008,464,000</b>	<b>\$3,176,380,900</b>	<b>+\$167,916,900</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL AND OFFSET FUNDS  
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2000-01 RECOMMENDED**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total Personal Service</u>		<u>Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)</u>		<u>Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration .....	\$3,858,600	+\$99,000	\$3,858,600	+\$99,000	.....	.....
Employment Relations Board .....	1,070,400	+70,200	1,053,700	+70,200	\$16,700	.....
Employment and Training .....	827,400	.....	827,400	.....	.....	.....
Labor Standards .....	866,700	+14,500	866,700	+14,500	.....	.....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$6,623,100</b>	<b>+\$183,700</b>	<b>\$6,606,400</b>	<b>+\$183,700</b>	<b>\$16,700</b>	<b>.....</b>

# LABOR

**STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2000-01 RECOMMENDED**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$1,022,400	+\$148,300	\$50,900	+\$1,200
Employment Relations Board .....	972,600	+161,100	18,600	+400
Employment and Training .....	2,709,800	+217,400	35,900	+900
Labor Standards .....	146,900	+3,400	5,500	....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$4,851,700</b>	<b>+\$530,200</b>	<b>\$110,900</b>	<b>+\$2,500</b>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$71,300	+\$1,700	\$472,600	+\$11,000
Employment Relations Board .....	64,000	+1,500	388,000	+9,100
Employment and Training .....	24,800	+600	15,600	+400
Labor Standards .....	7,600	....	116,700	+3,400
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$167,700</b>	<b>+\$3,800</b>	<b>\$992,900</b>	<b>+\$23,900</b>

Program	Equipment		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$100,600	+\$2,400	\$327,000	+\$132,000
Employment Relations Board .....	2,000	+100	500,000	+150,000
Employment and Training .....	24,500	+500	2,609,000	+215,000
Labor Standards .....	17,100	....	....	....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$144,200</b>	<b>+\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,436,000</b>	<b>+\$497,000</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS — OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2000-01 RECOMMENDED**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	\$583,734,600	+\$166,667,300	....	....
Employment and Training .....	12,284,000	+78,500	....	....
Labor Standards .....	11,784,500	+112,800	\$8,015,700	+\$59,700
Occupational Safety and Health ...	23,003,000	+344,400	10,786,300	+196,800
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund .....	2,534,100,000	....	....	....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$3,164,906,100</b>	<b>+\$167,203,000</b>	<b>\$18,802,000</b>	<b>+\$256,500</b>

Program	Nonpersonal Service		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration .....	....	....	\$583,734,600	+\$166,667,300
Employment and Training .....	....	....	12,284,000	+78,500
Labor Standards .....	\$2,763,400	+\$53,100	1,005,400	....
Occupational Safety and Health ...	12,216,700	+147,600	....	....
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund .....	....	....	2,534,100,000	....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$14,980,100</b>	<b>+\$200,700</b>	<b>\$3,131,124,000</b>	<b>+\$166,745,800</b>

**AID TO LOCALITIES  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE  
APPROPRIATIONS**

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Available 1999-00</u>	<u>Recommended 2000-01</u>	<u>Change</u>
General Fund .....	\$73,349,700	\$4,690,700	-\$68,659,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	476,586,000	340,352,000	-136,234,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	245,000	245,000	.....
<b>Total .....</b>	<b><u>\$550,180,700</u></b>	<b><u>\$345,287,700</u></b>	<b><u>-\$204,893,000</u></b>

**AID TO LOCALITIES  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 1999-00</u>	<u>Recommended 2000-01</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Employment and Training</b>			
General Fund .....	\$69,358,700	\$4,690,700	-\$64,668,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal .....	476,586,000	340,352,000	-136,234,000
<b>Occupational Safety and Health</b>			
General Fund .....	350,000	.....	-350,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other .....	245,000	245,000	.....
<b>Community Projects</b>			
General Fund .....	3,641,000	.....	-3,641,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b><u>\$550,180,700</u></b>	<b><u>\$345,287,700</u></b>	<b><u>-\$204,893,000</u></b>

