

# National Dislocated Worker Grants

## WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES (WORC IV)

Appalachian Regional Commission and Delta Regional Authority (ARC - DRA)  
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA-ETA-22-13)

Grant Number: MI-38990-22-60-A-54



*Area to be Served: Statewide*

### ***First Step Heavy Equipment Training (FSHET)***

The goal of the WORC grants is to create economic prosperity and gainful employment opportunities for eligible residents in impacted ARC and DRA regions, enabling them to remain and thrive in these communities.

FSHET combines targeted vocational pre-apprenticeship training via virtual simulators, general employability skills, soft skills, digital literacy skills, and certifications necessary to find family-sustaining employment. FSHET targets high and medium demand industries in West Virginia; forestry and construction. FSHET will offer both a five-week and a ten-week training program. The five-week training course is designed as a screening tool for potential employers and includes working with participants to ensure they have the skill, mindset, discipline, and/or the inclination to be an effective heavy equipment operator. The 10-week program is a pre-apprenticeship program and will offer qualifying participants the opportunity for a certification on at least two pieces of equipment, including 60-80 hours of simulator time, and will be a lead into the registered apprenticeship program with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 132.

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**Planned  
Participants**

130



**Award  
Amount**

\$1,440,438



**Target  
Population**

Multiple  
Groups



**Period of  
Performance**

9/15/22  
-  
9/30/25