

FY 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

Community Service Employment for Older Americans

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COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

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COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

N/A

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2024 Enacted		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	0	\$405,000	0	\$405,000	0	\$0
Non-Expenditure Transfer to ETA PA per P.L. 118-47	0	-\$2,025	0	\$0	0	\$0
Non-Expenditure Transfer to OSHA per P.L. 118-47	0	-\$4,050	0	\$0	0	\$0
<i>Subtotal Appropriation</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$398,925</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$405,000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Recapture Authority per P.L. 109-365	0	\$43,056	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Gross Budget Authority	0	\$441,981	0	\$405,000	0	\$0
Recapture Authority per P.L. 109-365	0	-\$43,056	0	\$0	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections:						
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$398,925</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
C. Budget Authority Before the Committee	0	\$398,925	0	\$405,000	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections From:						
Prior Year Balance	0	\$2,374	0	\$8,249	0	\$0
Unobligated Balances, Non-Expenditure Transfer to CEO per P.L. 117-328	0	-\$1,090	0	\$0	0	\$0
Unobligated Balances, Non-Expenditure Transfer to CEO per P.L. 118-47	0	\$0	0	-\$3,037	0	\$0
Recapture Authority per P.L. 109-365	0	\$43,056	0	\$0	0	\$0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$443,265</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$410,212</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
D. Total Budgetary Resources	0	\$443,265	0	\$410,212	0	\$0
Unobligated Balance End-of-Year, not expiring	0	-\$8,249	0	\$0	0	\$0
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	0	\$435,016	0	\$410,212	0	\$0

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$405,000	\$0	-\$405,000
Total	\$405,000	\$0	-\$405,000
Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Explanation of Change	FY 2026 Change							
	FY 2025 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	\$405,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	+\$405,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Programs:								
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Increase	0	+\$405,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Programs:								
Eliminate CSEOA	0	\$405,000	0	\$0	0	-\$405,000	0	-\$405,000
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	0	-\$405,000	0	-\$405,000
Total Decrease	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	-\$405,000	0	-\$405,000
Total Change	0	+\$405,000	0	\$0	0	-\$405,000	0	-\$405,000

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY (Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2024 Enacted		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Request		Diff. FY 2026 Request / FY 2025 Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Community Service Employment for Older Americans	0	405,000	0	405,000	0	0	0	-405,000
General Funds	0	405,000	0	405,000	0	0	0	-405,000
Total	0	405,000	0	405,000	0	0	0	-405,000
General Funds	0	405,000	0	405,000	0	0	0	-405,000

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	Diff. FY 2026 Request / FY 2025 Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent				
	Total	0	0	0	0
11.1	Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	405,000	405,000	0	-405,000
	Total	405,000	405,000	0	-405,000

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

APPROPRIATION HISTORY (Dollars in Thousands)					
	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
2017					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$434,371		\$400,000	\$400,000	0
2018					
Base Appropriation				\$400,000	0
2019					
Base Appropriation				\$400,000	0
2020					
Base Appropriation...1/		\$463,800		\$405,000	0
2021					
Base Appropriation...2/				\$405,000	0
2022					
Base Appropriation...3/	\$405,000	\$450,000		\$405,000	0
2023					
Base Appropriation	\$405,000			\$405,000	0
2024					
Base Appropriation	\$405,000		\$405,000	\$405,000	0
2025					
Base Appropriation	\$405,000			\$405,000	0
2026					
Base Appropriation	\$0				

1/ This bill was passed by the Senate. It was passed out of the House Subcommittee but was not reported out of the House Committee or by the full House.

2/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or full Appropriations Committee.

3/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or the full Senate Appropriations Committee.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	Diff. FY 2026 Request / FY 2025 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	405,000	405,000	0	-405,000
FTE	0	0	0	0

Introduction

The Community Service Employment for Older Americans (CSEOA) program, also known as the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), aims to support the self-sufficiency and employment of older workers by providing part-time, paid community service positions and work-based training for unemployed, low-income individuals, age 55 or older.

SCSEP, as authorized by Title V of the Older Americans Act (OAA), has a dual purpose “to foster individual economic self-sufficiency and to increase the number of participants placed in unsubsidized employment in the public and private sectors, while maintaining the community service focus of the program.” The OAA was amended by the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016 (2016 OAA).

The FY 2026 Budget proposes to eliminate SCSEP.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2021	\$405,000	0
2022	\$405,000	0
2023	\$405,000	0
2024	\$405,000	0
2025	\$405,000	0

Funding Mechanism

Under current law, SCSEP operates on a Program Year (PY) basis (April 1 to June 30 of the following year) and SCSEP funds are, in general, distributed by a statutorily prescribed formula which allocates funds to every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, based on U.S. Census data on the number of individuals in that jurisdiction who have low incomes and are age 55 and older. Prior to determining the amount available to be allocated to the states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, funds are reserved for the following: 1) up to 1.5 percent of the total authorization as determined by the Secretary of Labor for pilots, demonstrations, and evaluation projects; 2) a fixed percentage of 0.75 percent of the total allocation to the territories of Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and 3) a portion determined by the Secretary of Labor for national public or

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non-profit agencies to serve eligible American Indian and Pacific Island/Asian American individuals.

After the reserved amounts are specified and the funding proportion for each state is determined by the formula, funds are allocated to and administered through grants to all state governors, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and four territories, as well as national non-profit agencies. Approximately 22 percent of formula funds are awarded to the governors, with 78 percent competitively awarded to national nonprofit agencies for services across the country, which are renewed annually for four years, with an optional one-year extension.

FY 2026

The 2026 Budget eliminates the Community Service Employment for Older Americans program. This program does not have a strong record of success and is not cost-effective compared to other job training interventions. The goal of supporting the self-sufficiency and employment of older workers will be addressed through the Make America Skilled Again grant program, which will support the self-sufficiency and employment of all workers, including older workers.

FY 2025

Discretionary amounts shown for FY 2025 reflect the FY 2025 full-year Continuing Resolution amounts (P.L. 119-4).

DOL agencies will utilize funding provided through the full-year continuing resolution to realign agency operations with Administration priorities including, but not limited to, executing Executive Order 14158 titled *Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency"* (January 20, 2025); Executive Order 14210 titled *Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization Initiative* (February 11, 2025); Executive Order 14219 titled *Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Deregulatory Initiative* (February 19, 2025); Executive Order 14151 titled *Ending Radical And Wasteful Government DEI Programs And Preferencing* (January 20, 2025); and Executive Order 14278 titled *Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future* (April 23, 2025). To the extent any of these Executive Orders are subject to an injunction, DOL will conduct any realignment activities consistent with such injunction(s).

Workload and Performance Narrative

In FY 2025, SCSEP grantees included 56 state and territorial government grantees and 19 competitively-selected national grantees. SCSEP-funded services are available in nearly all 3,000 U.S. counties and territories.

Under current law, grantees report employment outcomes to the Department on: 1) employment in the second quarter after exit; 2) employment in the fourth quarter after exit; and 3) median earnings of those employed in the second quarter after exit. Grantees also report SCSEP-specific measures such as community service level, and services to those most in need.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

CHANGES IN FY 2026

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$0
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Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
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Built-Ins Subtotal	\$0
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Net Program	-\$405,000
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Direct FTE	0
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	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$405,000	0
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	-\$405,000	0