



Managing Layoffs

Rapid Response Program - Moving Forward

The decision to lay off workers is one that no employer wants to make. The vast majority of employers want to do everything in their power to help their workers during such challenging times.

Help is available! The Rapid Response Program works with employers to quickly coordinate services and provide timely assistance to impacted workers. The goal of the Program is to minimize disruptions to the employer while preparing workers for their transition to new employment. There is no question that every dislocation event is different, so Rapid Response services are tailored to best meet both the employer's and workers' needs.

Benefits to Businesses

- Opportunity to demonstrate to workers that they want to help during this difficult transition
- Higher worker productivity and lower absenteeism in the time leading up to the layoffs
- Lower unemployment insurance costs when services begin prior to the actual layoff
- Decreased likelihood of work disruptions, misconduct and the spreading of damaging rumors

Menu of Services for Impacted Workers

- Information sessions covering programs and services, including: Unemployment Insurance, the Dislocated Worker Program and Job Center services and tools
- Group workshops on a variety of topics, including: job search, career exploration, résumé assistance, interviewing and budgeting, and more
- Targeted job fairs with area employers
- Tailored labor market information
- Individual career guidance

Pre-Layoff Notification

The sooner the employer contacts the Rapid Response Program, the more time workers have to overcome their fears and develop a proactive plan to transition to new employment. Early intervention is absolutely the key to smooth transitions.

In some cases, employers are required to provide 60 days notice before laying off workers. Visit <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/> for more information about the notice requirements.

Contact Us

Inquiry Line (608) 266-7406
Email bwtdwering@dwd.wisconsin.gov

<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/>