

# **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

## **MISSION**

The Department of Labor (DOL) helps prospective employees to acquire the work skills most in demand in the economy so that they can be hired into good jobs with opportunity for growth and advancement. The Department also enforces regulations that maintain safety and health in the workplace and ensure fair compensation, and administers Federal Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who have lost jobs through no fault of their own.

## **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. This office oversees the work of eight employment service regional offices and 71 Employment Service Centers located throughout the State. In addition, through nine worker protection district offices, the Department enforces child labor laws, fosters workplace health and safety, and ensures 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 4,575 employees in SFY 2001-02. 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. Recommended State Operations appropriations are adjusted to better reflect actual Federal grant awards with no reduction in year-to-year program spending.

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 Youth Education, Employment and Training program (YEETP) contracts that serve economically disadvantaged youth. In addition, General Fund and TANF appropriations totaling \$2,301,400 will continue support for Green Teams program contracts that provide vocational training and work experience for approximately 400 youth and 50 adults.

Excluding the \$2.5 billion Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund, Federal funds support approximately 93 percent of the Department's remaining 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) job training services. Federally funded local assistance appropriation authority includes \$332 million for WIA services.

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. In SFY 2001-02, a new \$100 million of TANF funds will be made available to social services districts and State agencies to support work activities through DOL and

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transitional services through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. This new funding will complement prior-year set-asides for initiatives, such as InVEST and the New York Works Block Grant, which will remain available for expenditure in the forthcoming fiscal year. The new \$100 million, as well as these existing programs, is structured so that it can provide services to eligible individuals and families with incomes that do not exceed 200% of the Federal poverty level, thus providing an important focus on avoiding welfare dependency through work.

Federal appropriations also include funding to assist families that are the victims of natural disasters.

Fee revenues support approximately two 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 72 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 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)**

The Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA), provides job training to youth, adults, and dislocated workers. WIA also upgrades the skills of those currently working, thus helping employers meet the changing needs of their business operations. Eligible participants access WIA services through a network of local One-Stop Centers for the

delivery of employment and training services. WIA also improves customer choice and program effectiveness, as participants can choose training providers based on past performance through the use of individual training accounts.

The State Workforce Investment Board, established in 1999, assists 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 19,665 amusement park devices, 923 ski lifts, 7,272 places of public assembly (e.g., bleachers at concerts), and 35,068 commercial boilers. It also reviewed applications for 817 Radioactive Materials licenses and 55,155 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 1,050 businesses for compliance with child labor laws and collected almost \$13 million in back wages, unpaid fringe benefits, and minimum wage underpayments for approximately 20,441 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 9,586 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 four Tele-Claims Centers located in Troy, Endicott, and two sites in New York City that currently process about 85 percent of the statewide initial claims workload. 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.

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## ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Available 2000-01</u>	<u>Appropriations Recommended 2001-02</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Reappropriations Recommended 2001-02</u>
State Operations	3,198,489,500	3,119,275,400	(79,214,100)	731,379,100
Aid To Localities	354,102,700	341,563,900	(12,538,800)	1,029,776,000
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	<u>3,552,592,200</u>	<u>3,460,839,300</u>	<u>(91,752,900)</u>	<u>1,761,155,100</u>

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

### Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

<u>Program</u>	<u>2000-01 Estimated FTEs 03/31/01</u>	<u>2001-02 Estimated FTEs 03/31/02</u>	<u>FTE Change</u>
Administration			
General Fund	75	75	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	3,935	3,935	0
Employment Relations Board			
General Fund	16	16	0
Employment and Training			
General Fund	48	48	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	74	74	0
Labor Standards			
General Fund	21	21	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	197	197	0
Occupational Safety and Health			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	209	209	0
Total	<u>4,575</u>	<u>4,575</u>	<u>0</u>

## STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Available 2000-01</u>	<u>Recommended 2001-02</u>	<u>Change</u>
General Fund	12,192,700	11,951,500	(241,200)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	636,277,500	554,873,900	(81,403,600)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	50,019,300	52,450,000	2,430,700
Fiduciary Funds	2,500,000,000	2,500,000,000	0
Total	<u>3,198,489,500</u>	<u>3,119,275,400</u>	<u>(79,214,100)</u>

### Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From	
Labor, Department of	
General Fund	(142,100)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	(1,659,100)
Special Pay Bill	
General Fund	(860,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	(20,102,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	(652,000)
Transfer(s) To	
Labor, Department of	
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,801,200
Appropriated 2000-01	<u>3,176,875,500</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 2000-01</u>	<u>Recommended 2001-02</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration			
General Fund	5,349,800	5,509,600	159,800
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	602,118,500	518,830,900	(83,287,600)
Employment Relations Board			
General Fund	2,134,900	2,172,700	37,800
Employment and Training			
General Fund	3,620,000	3,199,400	(420,600)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	59,000	443,000	384,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,736,000	12,954,300	218,300
Labor Standards			
General Fund	1,088,000	1,069,800	(18,200)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,806,300	13,160,200	353,900
Occupational Safety and Health			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	24,477,000	26,335,500	1,858,500
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	34,100,000	35,600,000	1,500,000
Expendable Trust Funds	<u>2,500,000,000</u>	<u>2,500,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>3,198,489,500</u>	<u>3,119,275,400</u>	<u>(79,214,100)</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2001-02 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total Personal Service</u>		<u>Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	3,872,800	47,200	3,872,800	47,200
Employment Relations Board	1,183,900	21,600	1,167,200	21,600
Employment and Training	915,200	16,700	915,200	16,700
Labor Standards	961,000	19,900	961,000	19,900
Total	<u>6,932,900</u>	<u>105,400</u>	<u>6,916,200</u>	<u>105,400</u>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	0	0
Employment Relations Board	16,700	0
Employment and Training	0	0
Labor Standards	0	0
Total	<u>16,700</u>	<u>0</u>

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2001-02 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total Nonpersonal Service</u>		<u>Supplies and Materials</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	1,636,800	112,600	116,300	3,400
Employment Relations Board	988,800	16,200	19,200	600
Employment and Training	2,284,200	(437,300)	37,000	1,100
Labor Standards	108,800	(38,100)	5,700	200
Total	<u>5,018,600</u>	<u>(346,600)</u>	<u>178,200</u>	<u>5,300</u>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Travel</u>		<u>Contractual Services</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	73,400	2,100	984,500	97,200
Employment Relations Board	65,900	1,900	401,600	13,600
Employment and Training	25,500	700	16,100	500
Labor Standards	7,800	200	77,700	(39,000)
Total	<u>172,600</u>	<u>4,900</u>	<u>1,479,900</u>	<u>72,300</u>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Equipment</u>		<u>Maintenance Undistributed</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	103,600	3,000	359,000	6,900
Employment Relations Board	2,100	100	500,000	0
Employment and Training	25,200	700	2,180,400	(440,300)
Labor Standards	17,600	500	0	0
Total	<u>148,500</u>	<u>4,300</u>	<u>3,039,400</u>	<u>(433,400)</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2001-02 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Personal Service</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	518,830,900	(83,287,600)	0	0
Employment and Training	13,397,300	602,300	0	(44,000)
Labor Standards	13,160,200	353,900	8,639,500	155,500
Occupational Safety and Health	26,335,500	1,858,500	11,654,100	(273,200)
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund	2,535,600,000	1,500,000	0	0
Total	<u>3,107,323,900</u>	<u>(78,972,900)</u>	<u>20,293,600</u>	<u>(161,700)</u>

<u>Program</u>	<u>Nonpersonal Service</u>		<u>Maintenance Undistributed</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administration	0	0	518,830,900	(83,287,600)
Employment and Training	0	(15,000)	13,397,300	661,300
Labor Standards	2,954,500	132,200	1,566,200	66,200
Occupational Safety and Health	12,681,400	131,700	2,000,000	2,000,000
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Fund	0	0	2,535,600,000	1,500,000
Total	<u>15,635,900</u>	<u>248,900</u>	<u>3,071,394,400</u>	<u>(79,060,100)</u>

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

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Available 2000-01</u>	<u>Recommended 2001-02</u>	<u>Change</u>
General Fund	12,505,700	4,690,700	(7,815,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	341,352,000	336,628,200	(4,723,800)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	245,000	245,000	0
Total	<u>354,102,700</u>	<u>341,563,900</u>	<u>(12,538,800)</u>

**AID TO LOCALITIES  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 2000-01</u>	<u>Recommended 2001-02</u>	<u>Change</u>
Employment and Training			
General Fund	9,210,700	4,690,700	(4,520,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	341,352,000	336,628,200	(4,723,800)
Occupational Safety and Health			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	245,000	245,000	0
Community Projects			
General Fund	<u>3,295,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,295,000)</u>
Total	<u>354,102,700</u>	<u>341,563,900</u>	<u>(12,538,800)</u>