

## Department of Labor Conference Report Fiscal Year 2024

In FY 2024, DOL continued its conference review process involving the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, and the Office of the Solicitor. For FY23, DOL incurred over \$6.2 million in costs to the Department for conferences.

Throughout the year, DOL hosted a variety of conferences and trainings ranging from grantee trainings to agency leadership meetings which were designed to set the stage for the agency's significant initiatives for the next fiscal year, including organizational and management goals that are critical for the agency's successful implementation of its operating plan.

If there are any questions concerning this reporting, or if additional information is required, please contact Dylan Sacchetti, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, [sacchetti.dylan.m.@dol.gov](mailto:sacchetti.dylan.m.@dol.gov).

### Department of Labor Conferences over \$100,000 in costs to the Department

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Conference Title:** National Compensation Survey (NCS) National Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$229,800

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Date:** May 7-9, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the NCS National Training was to provide training to Field Economists on advanced benefit concepts, strategies for overcoming lack of engagement from respondents, and tips to manage the collection workload associated with large enterprises. Field Economists also received information from NCS leadership on national initiatives, programmatic changes, and system development projects. By integrating regional offices into a single training, NCS can facilitate the sharing of ideas and best practices across the country, and present training in a consistent manner.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 165

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Conference Title:** Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) National Conference

**Conference Expenses:** \$117,900

**Location:** Cleveland, OH

**Date:** June 5-6, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the QCEW National Conference was to support the State Workforce Agencies' performance in meeting the critical deliverables specified in the QCEW FedState Cooperative Agreement. BLS addressed policy and program changes including new training, the wage record program, and the adjustment to the massive new national data collection system, QUEST, along with the data querying partner system, Metabase. This conference was mission critical due to the national transition to QUEST and high staff turnover rate in the past year. To reduce the disproportionate travel burden on states, and to encourage greater interaction of participants outside of meeting sessions, this meeting is rotated around the country. This location was selected due to the competitive rates as well as its central location given the State representatives travel from all 10 DOL regions.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 61

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Conference Title:** Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS) National Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$223,600

**Location:** Salt Lake City, UT

**Date:** July 30 -August 1, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the ORS National Training was to provide training to Field Economists on the procedures and concepts underlying the ORS. Staff training was critical to ensure data quality and response goals are met. This training spent significant time discussing advanced ORS concepts, strategies for overcoming lack of engagement from respondents, and tips to manage the collection workload associated with large enterprises. This training allows the program to produce a single training for all staff rather than conducting separate trainings across the United States. By combining the individual regional office training into a single training, OFO and ORS can facilitate the sharing of ideas and best practices across the country and present training in a consistent manner with the same trainers.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 124

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration

**Conference Title:** 2024 Basic Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$103,544.22

**Location:** San Antonio, Texas

**Dates:** January 22-26, 2024

**Explanation:** Basic Training equips new employees with a comprehensive understanding of regulations and compliance at EBSA, enabling them to effectively navigate available resources, including collaborating with other employees, to support their day-to-day work.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 61

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration

**Conference Title:** Managers' Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$222,695.29

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Dates:** August 20-22, 2024

**Explanation:** FY 2024 managers' training was key to ensuring that EBSA's management and senior technical cadre are qualified to perform their jobs by being (1) knowledgeable about current issues and trends relating to regulating the very complicated financial and health care universe of private sector employee benefit plans and (2) well-versed in techniques/approaches for managing a large organization.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 227

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** Office of Job Corps Student Leadership Summit

**Conference Expenses:** \$487,993.00

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Date:** December 5-7, 2023

**Explanation:** As authorized under the Workforce Opportunity and Innovation Act, this Student Leadership Summit provided an opportunity to support responsible citizenship of and provide a service-learning opportunity to Job Corps students. The summit focused on the Job Corps 2.0 vision

and encompassed multiple learning objectives to promote a student-centered design and model for the program. The primary objective of the leadership summit was to provide an educational and training opportunity for students, including networking opportunities, collaboration activities, and access to industry experts.

Center leadership also attended the summit for several purposes. First, center leadership provided necessary supervision of the students during their attendance at the summit. Second, as Job Corps 2.0 is a mission-critical initiative being undertaken by each center, the Office of Job Corps is interested in continuing to fully inform center leadership of the initiative and providing training on multi-tiered behavioral health approaches, and student-centered DEIA principles. This summit provided the Office of Job Corps an opportunity to gain buy-in from center leadership about the Job Corps 2.0 vision, assess progress toward that vision in real time, and collect feedback on how to best implement the vision.

Engaging students via this summit satisfied statutory purposes of the Job Corps program. Further, engaging students and center leadership, nationwide, directly with the Acting Secretary and top agency leadership was beneficial to the development of Job Corps 2.0 and Job Corps' nationwide operations.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 32 plus Jobs Corps related attendees

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** Job Corps Student Leadership Conference

**Conference Expenses:** \$479,109.27

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Date:** August 13-15, 2024

**Explanation:** As authorized under the Workforce Opportunity and Innovation Act, this Student Leadership Summit provided an opportunity to support responsible citizenship of and provide a service-learning opportunity to Job Corps students. The summit focused on the Job Corps 2.0 vision and encompassed multiple learning objectives to promote a student-centered design and model for the program. The primary objective of the leadership summit was to provide an educational and training opportunity for students, including networking opportunities, collaboration activities, and access to industry experts.

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Engaging students via this summit satisfied statutory purposes of the Job Corps program. Further, engaging students and center leadership, nationwide, directly with the Acting Secretary and top agency leadership was beneficial to the development of Job Corps 2.0 and Job Corps' nationwide operations.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 22 plus Jobs Corps related attendees

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** Vision 2030 Workforce Regional Convening

**Conference Expenses:** \$198,188.37

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Date:** November 13-16, 2023

**Explanation:** The ETA convening will be an opportunity to formally launch the ETA Vision 2030 and a chance to come together in this pivotal moment—public, private, educational, nonprofit—to ensure that we build a new economy that works for all Americans. It will also be an opportunity to highlight and uplift existing programs, build on success by scaling up together, and create strategic plans to meet the needs of the future.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 83 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** YouthBuild New Grantee Orientation

**Conference Expenses:** \$143,033.65

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Date:** July 30-August 1, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the YouthBuild New Grantee Orientation (NGO) was to get the grantees off to a good start. Staff provide technical assistance (TA) and training on the fundamental components of the YouthBuild model, ensure compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), reinforce best practices in performance reporting and data management, share innovations in Construction Plus programming and pre-apprenticeship models, and cover ETA requirements for successful grant management, including financial management and the Uniform Guidance.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 10 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** YouthBuild Peer-to-Peer Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$134,432.90

**Location:** Dallas, TX

**Date:** March 19-21, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the Dallas Peer-to-Peer (P2P) training was to deliver technical assistance and grant management support to enable DOL YouthBuild grantee staff to improve outcomes in their programs. The Peer-to-Peer training accomplished this by providing workshops and plenaries aimed at establishing promising program practices in apprenticeship and Construction Plus program components, effective grant management, and sessions catering to targeted challenges or beneficial resources.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 8 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** YouthBuild Peer-to-Peer Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$159,642.06

**Location:** Philadelphia, PA

**Date:** April 16-18, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the Philadelphia Peer-to-Peer (P2P) training was to deliver technical assistance and grant management support to enable DOL YouthBuild grantee staff to improve outcomes in their programs. The Peer-to-Peer training accomplished this by providing workshops and plenaries aimed at establishing promising program practices in apprenticeship and Construction Plus

program components, effective grant management, and sessions catering to targeted challenges or beneficial resources.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 8 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** YouthBuild Peer-to-Peer Training

**Conference Expenses:** \$139,321.30

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Date:** May 7-9, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the Chicago Peer-to-Peer (P2P) training was to deliver technical assistance and grant management support to enable DOL YouthBuild grantee staff to improve outcomes in their programs. The Peer-to-Peer training accomplished this by providing workshops and plenaries aimed at establishing promising program practices in apprenticeship and Construction Plus program components, effective grant management, and sessions catering to targeted challenges or beneficial resources.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 10 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** Apprenticeship Staff Meeting

**Conference Expenses:** \$142,262.42

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Date:** September 24-25, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the September 24-25, 2024, Office of Apprenticeship (OA) All-Staff Convening at the U.S. DOL Frances Perkins Building was to deliver high-quality technical training and operational guidance to staff in order to support implementation of the anticipated regulatory changes to the current registered apprenticeship regulations found at 29 CFR part 29, implementation of the President's Executive Order for Federal Apprenticeship, and other critical elements of system modernization. Providing this essential training to support implementation of the "National Apprenticeship System Enhancements" regulations, the EO, and modernization efforts, supports OA's change management goals to properly prepare staff as they in turn support the efforts that diversify, expand, and modernize registered apprenticeship – an Agency Priority Goal.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 121

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

**Conference Title:** Reentry Employment Opportunities Grantee Meeting

**Conference Expenses:** \$122,952

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Date:** April 30-May 2, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of this year's Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) convening was to bring the REO grant initiative awardees together in-person for the first time since COVID. The event provides interactive technical assistance (TA) and grant management support aimed at improving their program outcomes. The in-person training provides workshops and plenaries with the focus of improving partnerships within the workforce ecosystem. The convening offers significant value by creating a real-time space for collaboration, idea exchange, and relationship-building, while fostering a community that accelerates positive impact and shared success.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 16 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration  
**Conference Title:** Reentry Employment Opportunities New Grantee Orientation  
**Conference Expenses:** \$132,309  
**Location:** Washington, DC  
**Date:** September 17-19, 2024

**Explanation:** The purpose of the Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) New Grantee Orientation (NGO) for USDOL Growth Opportunities 4 and Pathway Home 5 off to a good start by providing an in-person critical platform. New grant awardees receive a comprehensive program overview, essential program management and reporting requirements, while also receiving support with navigating their responsibilities through each grant phase. The orientation's comprehensive workshops strengthen partnerships within the workforce ecosystem and improve data collection and analysis geared towards maximizing the effectiveness of the funded programs.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 13 plus grantees and partners

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division  
**Conference Title:** Basic I Investigator and Technician Training  
**Conference Expenses:** \$115,117.43  
**Location:** Pittsburgh, PA  
**Date:** April 23-25, 2024

**Explanation:** Trainees participated in separate training with WHD experts to reinforce the concepts they have learned virtually. This week emphasized role playing and practical application, taking full advantage of the in-person training experience. Trainees then gathered with WHD leadership for a joint graduation celebration to recognize their accomplishments and receive their WHD credentials.

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 65

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division  
**Conference Title:** Basic II Training  
**Conference Expenses:** \$227,962.17  
**Location:** New Orleans, LA  
**Date:** June 11-13, 2024

**Explanation:** Basic II Training, a modular training program, is designed to aid investigators in advancing their skills essential to support WHD's mission. In FY 2023, WHD updated its Basic II training program into 4 separate modules which is now referred to as: Basic II Advanced Acts, ("Advanced Acts").

**Total Number of Federal Employee Participants:** 123