



Agricultural and Seasonal Workforce Services Advisory Committee

Meeting details

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Physical address: **Employment Security Department**, 212 Maple Park Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Committee members present

- Jon DeVaney
- Michael Gempler
- Michele Besso
- Elizabeth Strater (proxy for Victoria Ruddy)
- Edgar Franks
- Diana Lopez Batista (proxy for Rosalinda Guillen)

ESD staff

- Joy Adams
- Bertha J. Clayton
- Vickie Carlson
- Petra Meraz
- Carlos Sandoval-Larios
- Ismaila Maidadi
- Olga Kondratjeva
- Alberto Isiordia
- Craig Carroll
- Danielle Cruver

Non-voting agency representatives

- Ignacio Marquez
- Uriel Iñiguez
- Juan Gamez

Committee members absent

- Delia Peña (excused)
- Jeff Perrault (excused)

Summary

Meeting Recorded

This meeting was recorded and is available on <https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/Ag-committee>

Welcome and Agenda Review

Employment Security Department (ESD) Policy Director, Joy Adams, welcomed everyone, reviewed the meeting agenda and asked if anyone had any questions. (See Addendum I.)

Roll Call – Vickie Carlson, Management Analyst, ASWS Office, ESD

Recording timestamp **00:04:35**

Joy Adams asked Vickie Carlson to take roll. Six voting members were present at the time of roll call. (Quorum). Motion to approve the July 25th meeting minutes- Jon DeVaney, 2nd from Elizabeth Strater. Motion carries.

Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) 2024 Grant Allocations (Addendum II.)

Recording timestamp **00:04:59**

- Danielle Cruver, CFO, Financial Services Division, ESD

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision Package – Joy Adams (See Addendum III.) Recording timestamp 00:14:43

- Agricultural Workforce Services

2024 ASWS Report Update – Bertha J. Clayton Recording timestamp 00:49:42

Good of the Order – Joy Adams Recording timestamp 00:56:47

Action Items:

- Send the details of the Decision Package

Public Comments Recording timestamp 00:57:10

- Alfredo (Lelo) Juarez, Community 2 Community (C2C)

Adjourned

Joy Adams thanked everyone for their continued active participation and for their commitment to this work. Meeting adjourned: 2:00 PM.

2024 Meetings

The next Agricultural and Seasonal Workforce Services Advisory Committee meeting is on:

- September 18, 2024, 1 pm – 5 pm**, WorkSource Office: 1205 Ahtanum Ridge Drive, Union Gap, WA 98903

Addendums

ADDENDUM I.



AGENDA

Agricultural and Seasonal Workforce Services (ASWS) Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 21, 2024 | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm | Zoom | 212 Maple Park Ave SE Olympia, WA 98501

TIME	TOPIC
1:00 pm	Joy Adams, Policy Director, Employment System Policy & Integrity Division, ESD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda Review – Joy Adams Roll call – Vickie Carlson, Management Analyst, ASWS Office, ESD Approval of July 25th meeting minutes
1:10 pm	Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) 2024 Grant Allocations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Danielle Cruver, CFO, Financial Services Division, ESD
1:45 pm	2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision Package Discussion – Joy Adams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Workforce Services
2:35 pm	2024 ASWS Report Update – Bertha J. Clayton, Director, ASWS Office, ESD
2:50 pm	Good of the Order
3:00 pm	Adjourn: Next meeting: <i>In-person</i> , Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 1 pm – 5 pm, WorkSource Office: 1205 Ahtanum Ridge Drive, Union Gap, WA 98903

ADDENDUM II.

Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) 2024 Grant Allocations



Danielle Cruver, CFO, Financial Services Division, ESD

Agenda



- Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) Allocation & Trends
- Allocation Methodology
- ESD's FLC Budget Process



Foreign Labor Certification

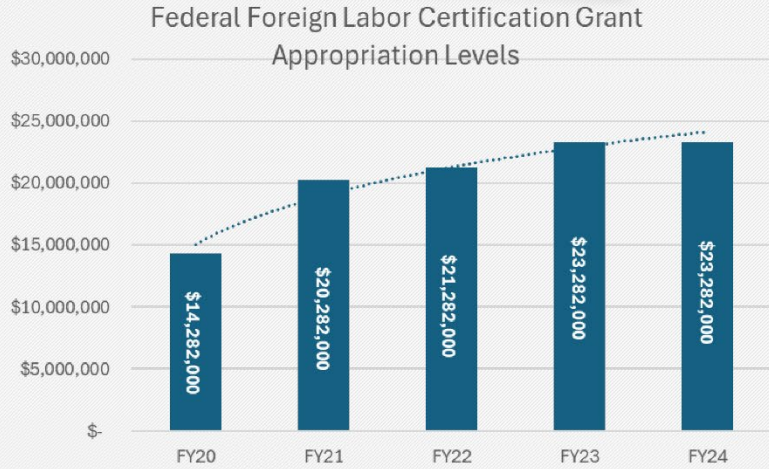
The text "Foreign Labor Certification" is overlaid on a background image of the American flag waving.

National Foreign Labor Certification Allocations



- FY20 \$14,282,000
- FY21 \$20,282,000
- FY22 \$21,282,000
- FY23 \$23,282,000
- FY24 \$23,282,000

- FY20-FY21 43% increase
- FY21-FY22 5% increase
- FY22-FY23 9% increase
- FY23-FY24 0% increase



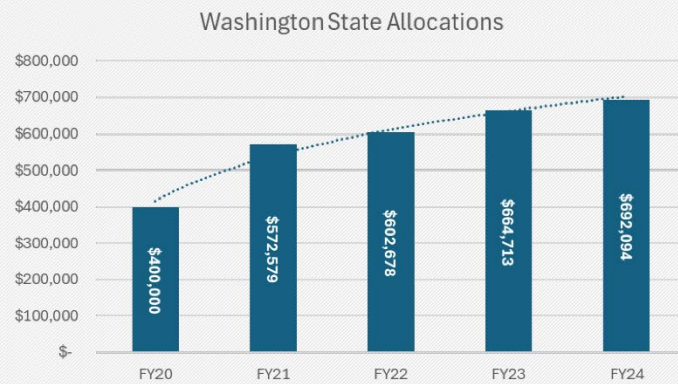
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FLC Washington State Allocations



- FY20 \$400,000
- FY21 \$572,579
- FY22 \$602,678
- FY23 \$664,713
- FY24 \$692,094

- FY20-FY21 43% increase
- FY21-FY22 5% increase
- FY22-FY23 10% increase
- FY23-FY24 4% increase



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Foreign Labor Certification National Allocation Methodology



The 2024 funding authorized for foreign labor certification grants was allocated to the states using the following methodology:

Base Allocation (\$12,924,023)

- Allocated to State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), driven by base allocations for the previous fiscal year and the level of obligations made under active foreign labor certification grants.

Ongoing Workload Allocation (\$10,357,977)

- One-third of the additional allocation was based on each SWA's proportion of the estimated national H-2A housing inspection workload.
- Two-thirds of the additional allocation was based on each SWA's share of the national workload associated with reviewing and posting H-2A and H-2B job orders during the three most recently completed fiscal years (FY 2021–2023).

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ESD's Foreign Labor Certification Budget Process



In the spring, a TEGP is released announcing the current federal fiscal year's FLC grant and annual plan guidance.

ESD then has 30 calendar days to develop and submit our annual plan.

Federal Grant Budget Development at ESD:

- ESD costs out internal FLC staff + associated other costs (e.g. benefits, rent, training, supplies, indirect costs)
- Travel – required conferences, site visits, trainings, etc.
- Contracts – Washington State University conducts Ag Survey and H2-A prevailing wage and practice surveys,
- Total costs for the year usually exceed our grant award, budget is trimmed where applicable to fit available funding.

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ADDENDUM III.

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision
Package Discussion



Joy Adams, Director, ESPI,ESD

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision
Package Discussion



2024 Recommendations

- increased language access and resource standardization
- target domestic recruitment resources and outreach
- visibility about employer domestic recruitment processes and outcomes
- more state oversight and regulation (esp re farm labor contractors)
- improve tracking of referral outcomes
- More resources for **agriculturally significant offices**

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision Package Discussion



Increase staffing and operational funding for ASWS

- Add one compliance specialist
- Reclass compliance specialists from PS3 to PS4
- Increase travel budget for day-to-day operations

Increase Employment Connections staffing for farmworker outreach

- Add one MA3 to coordinate job order creation and management
- Add three state-funded MSFW outreach specialists to central Washington
- Add a half-FTE bilingual communications consultant to improve communication opportunities

2025-2027 Biennial Budget Decision Package Discussion



Operating Expenditures	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Expenditures	\$1,571	\$1,571	\$1,571	\$1,571
Biennial Totals	\$3,142		\$3,142	
Staffing	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
FTE	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Average Annual	6.0		6.0	

Expected performance outcomes:

1. More timely service to the agriculture community (both farmworkers and growers)
2. Improved employer compliance with federal regulations regarding farm labor
3. Improved and expanded job service to foreign and domestic farmworkers

ADDENDUM IV.

2024 ASWS Report Update



Employment
Security
Department
WASHINGTON STATE

Bertha J. Clayton, Director, ASWS Office, ESPI, ESD

Good of the Order



Action Items:

Future Agenda Items:



Agricultural and Seasonal Workforce Services
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



ASWS Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In-Person

Union Gap WorkSource 1205 Ahtanum
Ridge Drive, Union Gap, WA 98903 1-5 PM

Contact information

Joy Adams, Director of Employment System Policy & Integrity Division joy.adams@esd.wa.gov

Employment Security Department • Employment System Policy & Integrity
