



*We help people succeed!*

*Pennsylvania*  
**CareerLink**

BERKS COUNTY

## **VETERAN AND ELIGIBLE SPOUSE (Covered Person) PRIORITY OF SERVICE**

- *Covered Veteran* –
  - Service in the military, naval, or air service and a discharge under conditions other than dishonorable.
  - Service in the National Guard or Reserves for other than “training” purposes and a discharge under conditions other than dishonorable.
- *Eligible Spouse* – the spouse of any of the following individuals:
  - A veteran who died of a service connected disability.
  - A member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty, who at the time of application for service under this section, is listed in one or more of the following categories, and has been so listed for a total of more than 90 days: missing in action, captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.
  - A veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service connected disability.
  - A veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

### **ENTITLEMENT**

As provided for in the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA), *covered persons* are entitled to priority over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training and placement services provided under qualified job training programs.

We want to inform you of the services available to you through PA CareerLink® Berks County and the eligibility requirements for each program. **Access to the specific services mentioned below will require you to identify yourself as a *Covered Person* in order to receive priority of service. After eligibility is established for a program and at the time the program is making a decision to commit financial resources, you must provide verification of your *Covered Person* status to receive priority of service.**

### **EMPLOYMENT SERVICE / Eligibility Requirement: None**

On the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS) you can review employment options available. [www.cwds.state.pa.us](http://www.cwds.state.pa.us) You may use the computers available in our Resource Room (Room 102). Employment Services Team members can assist with resumes, using CWDS and job referrals.

### **CORE WORKSHOPS / Eligibility Requirement: None**

A variety of workshops are offered to assist customers with their various job search needs and interests. Pick up a calendar in the Resource Room; contact the reception desk to reserve a seat 610-988-1300.

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**Pennsylvania CareerLink® Berks County**  
**501 Crescent Avenue, Reading, PA 19605**  
**Phone 610-988-1300 Fax 610-988-1301 TTY 610-988-1312**

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program  
Language assistance services are available free of cost.  
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

## **DISLOCATED WORKER SERVICES**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Individuals must meet General Eligibility, which consists of Citizenship or Eligible to Work, at least 18 years of age, and Selective Service Registrant, if applicable. A Dislocated Worker is an individual who 1) has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff from employment; 2) is eligible for or has exhausted unemployment insurance; 3) has demonstrated an appropriate attachment to the workforce, but not eligible for unemployment insurance and unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation; 3) has been terminated or laid off or received notification of termination or layoff from employment as a result of a permanent closure or substantial layoff; 4) is employed at a facility, where the employer has made the general announcement that the facility will close within 180 days; 5) was self-employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community or because of a natural disaster; or 6) is a displaced homemaker who is no longer supported by another family member. At PA CareerLink® Berks County stop at the reception desk and ask for an Individual Employment Planning Eligibility Pre-Determination form (commonly called “The Green Form”). Write “Covered Person” at the top of the first page. Return it to the reception desk when it is completed; you will be contacted for an appointment time.

## **ADULT SERVICES**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Individuals must meet General Eligibility, which consists of Citizenship or Eligible to Work, at least 18 years of age, and Selective Service Registrant, if applicable. When 80 percent of the funds budgeted for training has been obligated, the Berks County Workforce Investment Board restricts the receipt of intensive and training services to individuals who meet one or more of the following criteria: 1) an individual income of no more than 235% of the TANF standard, as measured over the 6 months prior to registration; or 2) be receiving cash public assistance or food stamps; or 3) be homeless. At PA CareerLink® Berks County stop at the reception desk and ask for an Individual Employment Planning Eligibility Pre-Determination form (commonly called “The Green Form”). Write “Covered Person” at the top of the first page. Return it to the reception desk when it is completed.

## **TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (TAA) SERVICES**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Adversely affected workers who lose their jobs, whose hours of work and wages are reduced as a result of increased imports, or whose firms have been affected by or are threatened by shifts in production to certain foreign countries. It also provides assistance to workers whose firm is a supplier or downstream producer to a firm that received a Certification of Eligibility. At PA CareerLink® Berks County check the TAA bulletin board outside Room 101a for impacted companies. You may also visit the Federal website for a list of companies <http://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/determinations.cfm>. Call Chantel @ 610-988-1313 Ext.3394 or Ed @ 610-988-1313 Ext. 3504 only when you see your company listed or you’ve received a letter from Harrisburg about your potential eligibility for the TAA program.

## **SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SCSEP) SERVICES**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Individuals age 55 and older and have a family income of no more than 25% over the Federal poverty level. It provides subsidized work experience and training at public and private non-profit agencies or organizations. Worksites are selected for this program based on their ability to provide meaningful community service work, proper supervision, and skill development opportunities. In Berks County contact AARP Work Search @ 610-375-2576 or Experience Works! @ 717-790-0165.

## **YOUTH PROGRAMS**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Individuals must meet General Eligibility, which consists of Citizenship or Eligible to Work, ages 14 - 21, and Selective Service Registrant, if applicable. Youth must also be low income and have at least one of the following barriers: 1) basic skills deficient; 2) school dropout; 3) homeless, runaway, or foster child; 4) pregnant or parenting; 5) offender; or 6) is an individual (including a youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment. If not low income with a barrier, youth must have at least one of the following exceptions: 1) school dropout; 2) basic skills deficient; 3) one or more grade levels below the grade level appropriate to the individual’s age; 4) pregnant or parenting; 5) individuals with disabilities, including learning disabilities; 6) homeless or runaway; 7) offender. NOTE: Not more than 5% of participants served in the local area may be individuals who do not meet the Disadvantaged Youth criteria. At PA CareerLink® Berks County contact Gordon McNamara @ 610-988-1374.

## **JOB CORPS**

*Eligibility Requirement:* Individuals must be between the ages of 16 and 24; be a U.S. citizen or legal resident, meet income requirements; and be ready, willing and able to participate fully in an educational environment. In Berks County contact the Admissions Counselor at 1-800-269-5640 or 610-372-5200.