In our dynamic, changing economy millions of workers lose their jobs each year because of layoffs or other economic transitions. Some of these dislocated workers are called back to their jobs but many others are able to find new jobs because they have transferable job skills and are good at job-hunting. However, many people need assistance in finding or preparing for new jobs and can be helped at their local One-Stop Center.

A variety of employment services are available to workers who have been laid off due to plant closings or downsizing, as well as to displaced homemakers. Core services include job-search and job-placement assistance and useful labor market information. Intensive services, including career counseling, comprehensive assessment of an individual’s employability, and development of a personal employment plan are available to dislocated workers who are unable to find jobs through core services. Occupational training linked to local job opportunities and supportive services, such as transportation and needs-related payments, also may be available. These services, which are funded by grants awarded to States on the basis of need, are intended to help dislocated workers get new jobs, with benefits, and develop a more secure future.

Many laid off workers are eligible for Unemployment Insurance while they receive these services. Additional services are available to workers who have lost their jobs due to the impact of foreign trade. Services also are provided to address large-scale layoffs and other unexpected events, such as natural disasters, through National Emergency Grants.

The overarching strategy for these initiatives is to prevent layoffs where possible, respond rapidly when layoffs are announced, develop new tools to help dislocated workers, and make all of these tools universally available. In keeping with this strategy, the Workforce Investment Act authorizes training of incumbent workers in low-skill jobs or jobs with obsolete skills who are in danger of being laid off. Further information for workers is available at www.wdsc.org/layoff/index.htm. Employers can find additional information on how to deal with layoffs at www.doleta.gov/whatsnew/insidebind.pdf

You can access America’s Workforce Network at http://www.doleta.gov, or by calling the Toll-Free Help Line at 1-877-US2-J OBS. (For TTY, call 1-877-TTY-J OBS.)
The following is a list of Department of Labor-supported activities and services that are part of America’s Workforce Network which may be of particular interest to workers, employers, and workforce development professionals. A fact sheet with specific information is available for each of the following areas:

- Accessing Services via Phone or Internet
- Adult Employment and Training Services
- America’s Labor Market Information System
- America’s Career Kit (Online Resources)
- America’s Workforce Network
- Applying for ETA Grants
- Assistance for Trade-Impacted Workers
- Basic Information for Employers
- Basic Information for Workers and Job-Seekers
- Disability Employment and Training Services
- Dislocated Worker Program (Services for Laid-Off Workers)
- Foreign Labor Certification
- High-Tech Skills Training
- Job Corps
- Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Employment and Training Services
- Native American Employment and Training Services
- Older Workers Employment and Training Services
- One-Stop Employment and Training Services
- One-Stop Partners
- Registered Apprenticeship
- School-to-Work
- Tax Credit Programs
- Unemployment Insurance
- Welfare-to-Work
- Youth Opportunity (YO) Grants
- Youth Opportunity (YO) Movement