

Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs (DWFAP) Advisories Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Last Updated September 2026

The questions and answers in Table One below are not in any particular order. Stakeholders are highly encouraged to review [Technical Assistance Bulletin \(TAB\) 26-01](#) for an overview of DWFAP's advisories. This FAQ may be updated as needed.

Questions should be directed dwfaprograms.deed@state.mn.us.

Table One: DWFAP Advisories FAQ

Question	Answer
Are advisories (TABs and Technical Assistance Response (TAR) Letters) considered policy?	No. Advisories themselves are not considered policy. See TAB 26-01 (Page Two). Advisories are considered sub-policy guidance. Advisories: 1. Provide written policy guidance or clarification where questions need to be answered but where formal policy changes may not be needed (for example TAR Letter 26-05) or where formal changes cannot happen fast enough, but interim guidance is still needed (for example TAB 26-06). 2. Provide written policy guidance on issues where a policy does not exist (either the policy not needed, it's in development, or DWFAP is waiting on U.S. Department of Labor regulations, or guidance) but where some sort of written guidance to the field is still needed. 3. Remind stakeholders of existing policy requirements by providing additional context, guidance, and information for stakeholders to consider or incorporate. 4. Share information (references, factsheets, research, reports, waivers, updates, etc.) about DWFAP's policies, programs or operations for stakeholder's information, reference or education (for example, TAB 26-05). 5. Share Federal or other State agency information for stakeholder's information, reference or education (for example, TAB 26-07). Another goal for the advisories is public access and to consolidate technical assistance requests and responses in writing. In the past, technical assistance requests and responses were rarely consolidated in writing in a publicly accessible place for stakeholders to review. Because advisories on our Policy and Guidance webpage they are accessible to all our stakeholders and can be easily shared.
Where can stakeholders find all of DWFAP's advisories?	Stakeholders can always find DWFAP's active advisories on our Policy and Guidance webpage . Cancelled or rescinded advisories are available for reference upon request.
Are advisories applied retroactively?	Almost always no. Advisories give guidance, information, etc. to the field to help inform future decisions. In the very rare circumstance an advisory would be retroactive the advisory will clearly say so and provide instructions on the process, procedure, etc. that stakeholders should follow to retroactively apply that specific guidance to their operations.
Are Technical Assistance Response (TAR) Letters only written after questions are received from the field?	Yes. Technical Assistance <i>Response</i> (emphasis added) Letters are always written in response to questions from the field.

Dislocated Worker and Federal Adult Programs (DWFAP) Advisories

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Question	Answer
How often are TAR Letters updated?	Because TAR Letters are only written in response to questions from the field, updates to TAR Letters also only typically happen upon request from the field. DWFAP does not plan to regularly keep TAR Letters up-to-date. Local agencies wondering if TAR Letter guidance is still current can contact DWFAP or request an updated TAR Letter.
Are TABs only written after questions are received from the field?	No. TABs may be written in response to questions from the field or may be written by DWFAP separately to provide additional guidance or information.
How often are TABs updated?	Compared to TAR Letters, TABs may be updated much more frequently. But it also depends on what the TAB is about. TABs that DWFAP plans to have updated on a semi-regular basis will always say so (i.e. “updated on a quarterly basis,” etc.). Just like with TAR Letters, local agencies can always contact DWFAP to confirm if the guidance, information, etc. in any TAB is still current.
Can local agencies request advisories?	Yes! Local agencies can request TAR Letters at any by submitting questions to your appropriate DEED staff (Grant specialist, etc.) or to Dwfaprograms.deed@state.mn.us . Just note that not every technical assistance request will result in a TAR Letter. Local agencies can also request updates on the status of any TAB by contacting DWFAP or by filling out DWFAP’s Policy Technical Assistance Form .
What is DWFAP’s recommendation/expectation for local agencies incorporating advisories into our local policies?	Local agencies should: 1. Review each advisory to see if the advisory applies to their program(s), and, 2. Incorporate the advisories’ guidance, information, etc. as appropriate For example, if a TAR Letter only applies to a particular program (i.e. State DW) then local agencies that do not have a State DW program should not incorporate that advisory. It does not apply to them. While it is recommended that local agencies await the State’s policy to be updated before making changes to their local policies, there may be cases where agencies feel comfortable moving forward with updating their local policies with guidance included in a TAB or TAR Letter. The TAB or TAR Letter will typically note if/how local agencies should incorporate the guidance.
Are local agencies expected to follow and adhere to every advisory that DWFAP releases?	No. Especially if the advisory does not apply to your program(s) or it is just sharing information for reference. Again, advisories by themselves are not considered policy. While local agencies do not have to incorporate advisory guidance, information, etc. into local policy or practice, they are highly encouraged to do so. This is especially true when advisories share best practices on program operations or shares guidance to the field about Federal WIOA requirements or expectations.
What is DWFAP’s recommendation/expectation for local agencies tracking advisories and/or expectation for local agencies to track?	Local agencies are not expected to independently track which advisories are active and which may have been cancelled or rescinded. Local agencies can request an up-to-date list of active advisories at any time. Active advisories are always listed on our Policy and Guidance webpage . A listserv is being worked on as well so stakeholders can be automatically informed when advisories are published, cancelled or rescinded.

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Does DWFAP plan to incorporate their advisories into their State policies?	DWFAP plans to incorporate advisories into State policy as appropriate. For example, a TAB that simply shares information to the field would not be appropriate to incorporate into local policy because that information is not needed in policy. Similarly, a TAR Letter that answers a unique question to a rare or specific situation would most likely not be incorporated into State policy. However, an advisory that provides interim guidance on a common issue or topic will likely be incorporated into State policy as fast as possible/appropriate.