



News from The WorkPlace

Fall 2026



Our Objectives

- To provide comprehensive training and employment services for local residents
- To promote individual employment development by providing opportunities for educational and vocational training, and improvement of work skills
- To provide services that are good for business



Programs and Services

New York State Department of Labor

In NYC on September 5, 1882, New Yorkers kicked off what would be the first Labor Day celebration, demonstrating the strength and solidarity of the working class. Nearly 150 years later, the New York State Department of Labor is committed to protecting and promoting workers' safety & health, wages, and working conditions.

At NYSDOL, we are committed to supporting New Yorkers by helping workers and businesses navigate the unemployment services process. Unemployment Insurance helps eligible workers who lost their job through no fault of their own with weekly payments to offset the loss of income while they look for a new job.

To learn more about our services, please call 315-786-3651 or visit

[🌐 Department of Labor Home Page](#)

Business Services

Did you know we have free services that can help your business?

Such as:

- **Job Advertisement & Job Matching**
- **Open Recruitments hosted here at The WorkPlace**
- **Bi-Annual Job Fairs**
- **On-the-Job Training Program**

Our On-the-Job Training program gives businesses a financial incentive to hire and train individuals in full-time skilled or semi-skilled occupations, helping people enter the workforce or move into a new occupation. The WorkPlace can reimburse a qualified business for up to 50% of the base wage while the worker is in training. Training periods are individualized for each candidate and position!

Contact Alyson to become an OJT Employer and to see how this could look for your business!

To learn more about Business Services, reach out to Alyson at awesley@jeffersoncountyny.gov or Aaron at aaron.peck@labor.ny.gov

Disability Resource Coordinator/NYSCION

Disability Resource Coordinators (DRCs) support both job seekers with disabilities and the workforce system by ensuring equitable access to career pathways, training, and employment opportunities. To make an appointment with a DRC, please call 315-786-3656.

We are proud to share that our DRC, Stephanie Harris, is a 2026 National Navigator Exchange Award recipient. The National Navigator Exchange is a national network that supports Disability Program Navigators and Disability Resource Coordinators in expanding employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Each year, the NNE Awards recognize individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, innovation, collaboration, and service in strengthening workforce systems and improving employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Stephanie's leadership and dedication have helped strengthen NY SCION locally by expanding partnerships, advancing innovative workforce strategies, and connecting more individuals with disabilities to training, employment, and the supports they need to succeed.

Youth and Young Adult Services

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) wrapped up on August 21, 2026. This year 143 youth were placed in employment at 61 locations across Jefferson County. Additionally, youth had the opportunity to learn financial literacy, resume development, and workplace skills. Youth participated in teambuilding at Beaver Camp, practiced volunteerism at the Office of the Aging picnic, and learned about careers and county government.



September brings the transition to the Youth Employment Program. If

your business would like to host a youth worker, please complete this form: [Worksite Request Form](#)

Youth applications can be found here: [Youth Application](#)

Department of Family Assistance

Monthly resume workshops are held on the 3rd Monday of the month from 10am to 11am. The next workshop will be October 19th. To register, please email theworkplace@jeffersoncountyny.gov or call (315) 786-3651.

There is still funding available through the Transportation Initiative Program. In this funding year, 9 working families have been served with vehicle repairs or assistance with car insurance. To apply, please complete the TANF Services Application which can be found here: [16 LCM-03 Attachment 2 - TANF Services Application/Certification](#)

Participants in our Skills for Success classes have been busy preparing for the Fall Job Fair and meeting speakers from organizations and programs including Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYSCION, and ICAM Thrive. During Q1 2026, 38 participants were hired and in Q2, 44 participants found jobs!

Orientations for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) are held the first and third Friday of each month at 9am and 2pm.

Career Center

Our resource room is available to search for and apply to jobs, type your resume, and make necessary copies.

We often host Open Recruitments at both of our locations and have partner agencies available to assist with a variety of employment related needs.

Monthly Watertown programming includes a USAJobs workshop, health insurance assistance with NCPPC and Fidelis, resume workshops, ACCES VR, and a Samaritan Medical Center hiring event. For our full list of events, visit our website at:

🌐 [Welcome to Jefferson County, New York - News and Events](#)

September events in Lowville include open recruitments with Hand in Hand and CareGivers and a Civil Service workshop. Check out all Lowville events here: [📘 The Lewis County WorkPlace | Lowville NY](#)



Upcoming Events

14th Annual Fall Job Fair

September 29, 2026
Watertown - Hilton Garden Inn
1:00pm to 3:30pm

To register your business:

<https://forms.gle/WW7jEP8fKgwP5Sk6>

Access & share the Job Seeker Flyer:

<https://www.jeffersoncountyny.gov/media/Employment%20and%20Training/Job%20Fair%20Related/Fall26%20Job%20Fair%20-%20Seeker%20Information.pdf>

Workforce Connections

November 18, 2026

This annual event gives high school seniors the opportunity to meet with representatives from over 75 local businesses and agencies to talk about careers and practice interview skills.

To participate as a business, please complete this form:

🌐 [Workforce Connections 2026](#)



Staff Spotlight

Please welcome our new staff!

- Kaitlyn Bray - Employment and Training Assistant - Lowville Office
- Cody Lothrop - Employment and Training Coordinator - Watertown Office

And, help us wish Julie Daniels, Senior Employment and Training Coordinator a very happy retirement after 32 years of service with Jefferson County!

Office Locations

Jefferson County	Lewis County
1000 Coffeen Street Watertown, NY 13601 Manager: Phone: (315) 786-3651 Fax: (315) 786-3679 Email: theworkplace@jeffersoncountyny.gov	5274 Outer Stowe Street Lowville, NY 13367 Manager: Lisa Hetzner Phone: (315) 376-5800 Fax: (315) 376-5328 Email: LewisOneStop@dfa.state.ny.us

Your American Job Center Network

Cheryl A. Mayforth, Director
1000 Coffeen Street
Watertown, New York 13601
Phone: 315-786-3651
Office Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Creating pathways to better careers and economic growth!

✦ Thank you!

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<https://www.jeffersoncountyny.gov/Theworkplace>
<https://www.facebook.com/JeffLewisWorks>

