The Public Value of Workforce Investment

Through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), EKCEP connects adults, dislocated workers, and youth with training, career guidance, and employment opportunities. An independent analysis of EKCEP's PY 2025 performance by Lightcast, a labor market analytics firm, shows these investments strengthen participants' earnings and generate substantial value for taxpayers.

10.33x

in taxpayer benefits for every $1 invested in EKCEP's WIOA programs

$102.2M
Projected taxpayer benefits over 10 years

$70.5M
Clients' estimated annual earnings gains

1.1 Years
To recover the taxpayer investment

Recovery & Reentry: Building a Future Through Employment

EKCEP's Recovery & Reentry services help people overcoming substance use disorders or returning from incarceration prepare for employment and connect with employers. Independent analysis shows these investments increase earnings and generate substantial value for taxpayers.

12.94x

in taxpayer benefits for every $1 invested in EKCEP's R&R programs

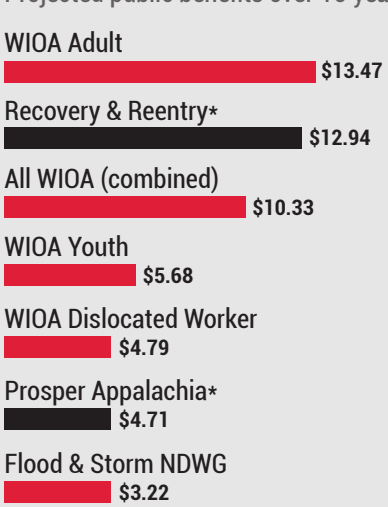
$33.5M Projected taxpayer benefits

$22.5M Estimated total annual client earnings gains

$8,287 Est. annual earnings gain per participant

Taxpayer return by program

Projected public benefits over 10 years



** Non-WIOA Programs. EKCEP's Recovery & Reentry services are funded by a combination of resources from the KY Overdose Response Effort, KY Office of Drug Control Policy, and other funding streams, including federal & state grants.*

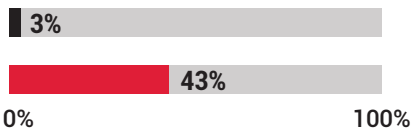
Prosper Appalachia
Investing in Eastern KY's Next Generation

Funded by the Kentucky legislature, Prosper Appalachia connects young people with career guidance and opportunities to build their futures in Eastern Kentucky. For many participants, this program connected them to their first time working on a job site. A Lightcast analysis of the program's first two years (PY 2024 - 2025) shows that investing in young talent increases earnings and generates lasting value for taxpayers.

4.71x

in taxpayer benefits for every $1 invested

$47.3M Projected taxpayer benefits over 10 years

$26.3M Estimated total annual client earnings gains

Prosper Participants Employed