

ARTICLE 15 - EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

As a product of the joint efforts of the State and OCSEA, the following advisory groups will operate to address matters of mutual concern regarding employment security and/or assistance to dislocated or disabled workers:

A. **Joint Statewide Employment Security Committee**

The Joint Statewide Employment Security Committee shall continue to function as an oversight committee on the following matters:

1. Exploring alternate employment opportunities within each agency for employees, from that agency or other agencies, who are disabled as a result of performance of their duties.

The Joint State/OCSEA Committee on Employment Security shall consist of not more than five (5) representatives from the Union and not more than five (5) representatives from the State. The committee will meet as needed and members will be released with pay, to include travel time, from their regularly scheduled work hours.

B. **Dislocated Worker Programs**

To the extent that funding through Rapid Response, or other funding source, is sufficient to support such efforts worker adjustment committees and regional worker adjustment committees shall continue.

1. **Worker Adjustment Committees**

In the event of an anticipated layoff at a workplace, institution or single agency where the number of employees displaced will exceed fifty (50), the State and OCSEA will jointly establish a Worker Adjustment Committee which will operate consistent with any applicable federal laws. The purpose of this committee will be to develop and implement assistance programs for displaced State employees including, but not limited to, career counseling, resume writing, job search skills development and assistance, job retraining, planning and preparation for employability, especially with other State agencies. The committees shall be composed of an equal number of representatives from the Union and the Employer and members will be released with pay, to include travel time, from their regularly scheduled work hours.

2. **Regional Worker Adjustment Committees**

The six (6) Regional Worker Adjustment Committees (RWAC) shall continue to function with the goal of assisting those state employees who are displaced and are not covered by a Worker Adjustment Committee as described above, (i.e. the number of employees to be displaced does not reach the threshold of fifty (50) employees in a single agency, work place or institution). The purpose of these committees will be to develop and implement assistance programs for displaced State employees within the region, including but not limited to, career counseling, resume writing, job search skills development and assistance, job retraining, planning and preparation for employability, especially with other State

agencies. Each committee shall be made up of an equal number of representatives from the Union and the Employer and members will be released with pay, to include travel time, from their regularly scheduled work hours.

C. Transitional Work Programs

Each agency may elect to form a joint committee (or to utilize its health and safety committee) to explore alternative employment opportunities within that agency, or other agencies, for employees who are disabled. These committees shall have the authority to discuss only those matters contained in this Article. These committees shall have no authority to amend or negotiate any matter, but may make recommendations regarding such matters. Each committee shall be made up of an equal number of representatives from the Union and the Employer and members will be released with pay, to include travel time, from their regularly scheduled work hours.

ARTICLE 16 - SENIORITY

16.01 - Definitions

For purposes of this Agreement, the various forms of seniority shall be defined as follows:

- A. "State seniority" - the total OCSEA bargaining unit seniority credits accrued since the employee's last date of hire with the state, except as modified by Section 16.02.
- B. "Institutional seniority" - the total seniority credits accrued since the employee's last date of hire or transfer into the specific institution where the employee is currently employed; except that in the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Department of Youth Services transfer of institutional seniority credits into newly activated institutions shall be as follows:
 - 1. Bargaining unit employees who are transferred through the 30th day after the first youth or inmate (other than cadre) arrives shall carry with them their institution seniority credits;
 - 2. Bargaining unit employees who are transferred after the 30th day from the time the first youth or inmate (other than cadre) arrives shall not be permitted to transfer institution seniority credits.
- C. "Seniority credit" - the total number of pay periods during which an employee held or had a right to return to a bargaining unit position, including periods of absence resulting from suspension, leaves of absence whether paid or unpaid, disability leave, leave for periods of workers' compensation (up to three years), and layoff (for as long as the employee remains on the recall list). Part-time employees experiencing similar periods of absence shall be credited with seniority at a rate determined by the average hours in active pay status during their last six (6) full pay periods.