

MASSACHUSETTS

Workforce Investment Act

WIA Communication No. 04-80

Policy Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Investment Board Chairs
Workforce Investment Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Regional Directors for Workforce Integration
DCS Associate Directors
DCS Field Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Susan V. Lawler, Commissioner
Division of Career Services

Date: October 12, 2004

Subject: Changes to DTA's Child-Care Need Determination Process

Purpose: To inform Career Center management and staff of a change to the DTA procedure for determining if EAS participants (Assessed Persons) are in need of part or full-time child-care.

Background: On July 23, 2004, the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) issued the attached Field Operations Memo to its staff regarding the redesign of the child-care authorization procedure for the BEACON system. The system change went into effect on July 19, 2004. The system change was implemented to accommodate a policy change regarding how the need for part or full-time child care by participants in DTA's Employment Service Program, including EAS participants, is determined. Prior to the change, DTA staff were responsible for determining the hours of child-care service to be provided to individual participants by the local Child Care Resources and Referral (CCR&R) agency.

With the change in policy, the responsibility for determining the hours of child-care service for the individual participant was *transferred* to the local CCR&R. DTA will no longer determine if a participant's child-care need is part or full-time, but will now only provide the CCR&R with the number of hours (on a

weekly basis) the participant (assessed person) is engaged in program activities. Under the change, the CCR&R now has the responsibility of determining the level of child-care services for each individual participant.

Action

Required: Please assure that all appropriate staff are informed of this change.

Effective: Immediately

Inquiries: Please email all questions to PolicyQA@detma.org. Also, indicate Issuance number and description.

Filing: Please file this in your notebook of previously issued WIA Communication Series Issuances as #04-80.