

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 06-44

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 Associate Directors
DCS Field Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

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

Date: July 21, 2006

Subject: National Business Learning Partnership Opportunity– Round II

Purpose: To provide notice to Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of an opportunity to participate in the second round of the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administrations (ETA) national peer-to-peer technical assistance project, the National Business Learning Partnership.

Background: Initiated in 2003, the first round of the National Business Learning Partnership successfully provided “peer-to-peer” mentoring to forty-four state and local workforce investment boards. The goal of the Partnership is to enhance regional and national competitive strength and improve labor market outcomes by engaging the workforce investment system in effective partnerships, fostering innovation, and integrating community strategies and resources.

The collaborative effort provided a knowledge base that enabled participants to effectively review their local partnerships. The results included a variety of system transition initiatives such as board restructuring and re-composition, building strategic partnerships, establishing business service units and improving strategic business outreach. The partnership pairs local, regional and state governance entities that have emerging practices with areas seeking assistance on particular issues.

Based on the Round I success, ETA has announced (see Attachment A) a second round that will both build on the results of Round I and expand the project scope.

Applicants must be a local workforce investment board, state workforce investment board, or other workforce and economic development-focused entity. Participants must commit to attendance at both in-person and virtual meetings with partners according to a developed workplan. Projects for Round II will focus on one of the following four issue areas:

- Talent Development Strategies Driving Regional Economic Competitiveness
- String and Sustained Strategic Regional Partnerships
- Workforce Information for performance and Strategic Planning
- Leveraged Resources and Solutions-Based Strategies.

ETA will support the cost of participation in the project and selection of participants will be made using a competitive process.

Action

Required: Interested parties (for Massachusetts) must submit a formal Expression of Interest no later than August 21, 2006 to Mary Anne Langton, Region 1 at:

Langton.Maryanne@dol.gov.

The Expression of Interest template and application information may be found at:

<http://workforce3one.org/content/public/nblp/>.