

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 09-71**

Policy  Information

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

**cc:** WIA State Partners

**From:** Michael Taylor, Director  
Department of Workforce Development

**Date:** October 30, 2009

**Subject:** **The HOPE NOW Alliance to Maximize Home Ownership and Prevent Unnecessary Foreclosures.**

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**Purpose:** To inform Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of the opportunity to engage with and support the efforts of the nationally-based Hope Now Alliance.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA) published Training and Employment Notice (TEN) No. 12-09, Engagement of the Public Workforce System with the HOPE NOW Alliance to Maximize Homeownership and Prevent Unnecessary Foreclosures on October 22, 2009.

TEN No. 12-09 (see link below) is intended to increase awareness of the nation's One-Stop Career Center System with regard to the HOPE NOW Alliance and its continuing efforts to assist American homeowners, and to encourage the full engagement of the local Workforce Investment Boards and One-Stop Career Centers in supporting the Alliance's activities. The Alliance was formed in 2007 at the bequest of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Housing and Urban Development and is comprised of representatives of leading mortgage companies and associations, mortgage insurers, government sponsored enterprises (Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac), HUD-approved counseling agencies and other mortgage market participants. HOPE NOW collaborates with the Federal government through the implementation of programs such as the President's *Making Home Affordable Program* and the Federal Trade Commission's *Anti-Scam Campaign*.

HOPE NOW primarily conducts its work through a housing counseling hotline (888-995-HOPE), an outreach campaign to “at risk” homeowners ([www.hopenow.com](http://www.hopenow.com)) and workshops.

One of the major factors contributing to foreclosures is job loss. HOPE NOW has sought a partnership with ETA to facilitate preparation for and placement in employment. To encourage increased engagement on the part of the public workforce system with the efforts of HOPE NOW, ETA has undertaken a number of steps that include:

- introduction of a web-based information tool which provides UI beneficiaries’ potential income for a future 9-month period for use by mortgage lenders to verify whether UI beneficiaries qualify for refinancing ([http://www.ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/ben\\_entitle.asp](http://www.ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/ben_entitle.asp));
- development of a future [www.workforce3one.org](http://www.workforce3one.org) webinar which will provide an opportunity for HOPE NOW to further educate the public workforce system about resources available to homeowners experiencing a hardship and/or foreclosure;
- preparation and dissemination of a template flyer and PowerPoint presentation for local career centers to use at their discretion when participating in HOPE NOW workshops. While no HOPE NOW workshops are presently scheduled for the New England area, management and staff of the Commonwealth’s WIBs and One-Stop Career Centers are encouraged to become familiar with these materials. The templates will be available on [www.doleta.gov/usworkforce](http://www.doleta.gov/usworkforce).

**Required:** Local Workforce Investment Boards and One-Stop Career Centers are encouraged to share information about the objectives, activities, services and resources of the HOPE NOW Alliance with colleagues and customers. At-risk individuals working with HOPE NOW may be referred to local career centers for employment assistance. Staff are asked to provide every possible support to those individuals so referred who may have experienced or are facing the prospect of job loss.

To access the full text of TEN No. 12-09, please click on the following link:

<http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/ten2009/TEN12-09acc.pdf>

**Inquiries:** Please direct all inquiries to Christina Eckenroth, USDOL-ETA Region One at [Eckenroth.Christina@dol.gov](mailto:Eckenroth.Christina@dol.gov).