

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 10-35

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 Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Michael Taylor, Director
Department of Workforce Development

Date: April 20, 2010

Subject: **The Workforce Investment Act Gold Standard Evaluation**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Centers and other local workforce investment partners of the potential to be chosen to participate in a U.S. Department of Labor initiative to evaluate the effectiveness of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs.

Background: On Tuesday, April 6, 2010 the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA) published Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 37-09, The Workforce Investment Act Gold Standard Evaluation. The TEGL announced the implementation of a rigorous evaluation of WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker formula programs. ETA sees the evaluation as an opportunity for the nation's workforce investment system to document the "importance of WIA-funded services" to participants, oversight bodies (including Congress and the Office of Management and Budget) and the general public.

The evaluation will be conducted over a five year period by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. in collaboration with subcontractors Social Policy Research Associates, MDRC, and the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce. The evaluation period will begin in July of 2010, with an interim report in 2012 and a final report in July of 2015.

The evaluation will be conducted with 30 LWIBs selected randomly from around the country to assure a nationally representative sample of the workforce investment system. Selected LWIBs will be directly notified by ETA within 30 days of the posting of TEGL No. 37-09. LWIBs will be compensated for additional costs incurred from their participation (details were not provided).

The evaluation will specifically:

- analyze Adult and Dislocated Worker program impacts on participants' post-program employment and earnings and their cost-effectiveness; and
- compare outcomes of WIA participants to outcomes for similar individuals who have not received WIA services.

To view the full text of TEGL No. 37-09 please click on the following link:

<http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/ten2009/TEN37-09acc.pdf>

Action

Required: LWIBs are requested to assure that area career center operators and other local workforce investment partners are aware of the contents of this issuance. Additionally, any Massachusetts LWIB selected to participate in this national evaluation should contact Alice Sweeney at Asweeney@detma.org.

Inquiries: Inquiries should be directed to the USDOL Region 1 Office.