

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 10-78

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

Nancy Snyder, President
Commonwealth Corporation

Date: September 14, 2010

Subject: **Massachusetts Work-Based Learning Plan Brainstorming Session**

Purpose: To transmit to Local Workforce Investment Boards, Youth Councils, One-Stop Career Center Operators, youth program vendors and other local workforce investment partners an invitation to participate in a brainstorming session to investigate and discuss tools and resources designed to support training for local areas in the Massachusetts Work-Based Learning Plan.

Background: WIA Communication No. 01-34, Documentation Requirements for Adults, Dislocated Workers and Youth under the Workforce Investment Act (7/22/01) stipulates that all youth grants for summer employment or work experiences funded through the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) must use the Massachusetts Work-based Learning Plan (MWBLP) to structure the work experience as a formal learning opportunity. To assure that planned work experience focuses on building skills and competencies that need continued development rather than those for which proficiency has already been demonstrated, a youth's individual service strategy should identify which of the nine competencies included within the MWBLP have been previously mastered.

As a follow-up to last May's "Train the Trainer" Work-Based Learning Plan (WBLP) webinar, Commonwealth Corporation and the Department of Elementary

and Secondary Education are seeking to potentially schedule a brainstorming session to investigate and discuss tools and resources designed to support additional WBLP training in the local area. While a variety of training tools and resources are currently available through the online WBLP “clearinghouse”, suggestions are being sought with regard to expanding and enhancing said resources to include additional training methods such as videos and other on-line modalities such as the e-learning WBLP program that is currently under development.

To measure local area interest in participating in such a session (potentially to be scheduled between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon) please contact Keith Westrich at either KWestrich@doe.mass.edu or 781-338-3902 no later than Friday, September 17, 2010. Upon determining the level of interest a meeting date and location (based on responses) will be scheduled.

Please Note: Dates and time of the meeting will be communicated directly to interested parties.

Action

Required: Please assure that all appropriate staff, especially all career center and framework services staff and youth vendors that use the WBLP are informed of the contents of this issuance.

Inquiries: All inquiries should be addressed to Keith Westrich at KWestrich@doe.mass.edu or 781-338-3902