

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 11-13**

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:** February 16, 2011

**Subject:** **Reintegration of Ex-Offenders –Adult Programs Grant Solicitation**

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**Purpose:** To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs), One-Stop Career Center Operators (OSCCs) and other local workforce investment partners of a grant opportunity for faith-based and community organizations that requires partnering with LWIBs and OSCCs among other institutional and community service providers.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA), announced in the Federal Register of February 11, 2010, the availability of \$11.7 million dollars to serve adult ex-offenders returning to their communities. ETA expects to award approximately 10 grants of approximately \$1,170,000 each for a 27-month period of performance. Grants will be awarded to faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to provide pre-release and post-release services to ex-offenders returning to high-poverty, high-crime communities.

Released prisoners face a myriad of challenges that contribute to their return to criminal activity, leading to re-arrest and re-incarceration. Joblessness, lack of education and training, substance abuse and mental health issues have all been linked as contributing to recidivism rates. Reintegration of Ex-Offender (RExO) - Adult grants are intended to address these issues in a coordinated effort among a variety of service partners that include LWIBs and OSCCs.

The RExO - Adult program is an employment-centered program that stresses job placement in in-demand industries such as “green” jobs, job retention, and increasing the earning potential of ex-offenders. FBCOs will offer job placement services in coordination with businesses, local One-Stop Career Centers, educational institutions, and other employment service providers. FBCOs will also use services available to support employment of ex-offenders, such as the Federal Bonding program and Work Opportunity Tax Credits.

The grant solicitation also strongly encourages participating FBCOs to develop partnerships with various employment partners, including Employer Advisory Councils, Chambers of Commerce, Neighborhood Business Councils and individual employers to ensure a pathway to employment for participants.

LWIBs and OSCC Operators should explore their potential participation as a partner in a RExO - Adult grant with local faith based and community organizations.

The application deadline is: March 17, 2010

The full text of the grant solicitation can be accessed through the following link:

[http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find\\_grants.cfm](http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm)

**Inquiries:** Please direct all inquiries to Brenda Ruggles, Grants Management Specialist, at 202-693-3437.