

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 11-48

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: George Moriarty, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: August 1, 2011

Subject: **WIA Title I Youth Program Transition to DCS**

Purpose: To notify Chief Elected Officials (CEOs), Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs) and Youth Councils; One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of the transition of full state-level authority over the WIA Title I Youth Program from the Commonwealth Corporation (CommCorp) to the Department of Career Services (DCS).

Background: Since 2003, the administrative oversight for the WIA Title I Youth program has been a shared responsibility between the Commonwealth Corporation (CommCorp) and the Department of Career Services (DCS). As DCS currently maintains administrative oversight for WIA Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, the Patrick Administration has consolidated state-level administrative responsibility for WIA Title I Youth programs and services under DCS. This action will further solidify lines of communication and programmatic alignment within the Commonwealth's workforce system. CommCorp will continue to be responsible for YouthWorks and other non-WIA youth initiatives. DCS will work closely with CommCorp to assure continued and effective coordination among all youth-focused programs and providers.

To accommodate the transition, DCS has established the following communication protocols to allow for the uninterrupted delivery of services, resolution of programmatic issues and the provision of relevant technical assistance while internal structural adjustments are finalized:

- All state-level information and policy related to the WIA Title I Youth Program will be formally communicated to LWIBs, Youth Councils, One-Stop Career Centers and other local youth practitioners through the MassWorkforce Issuance communication system that is hosted on MassWorkforce.org at:
<http://www.massworkforce.org/Issuances/index.htm>
- DCS has set up a new WIA Youth Mailbox to ensure open communication and timely response to all field inquiries related to the delivery of youth services under Title I. Please ensure that all questions, comments and/or suggestions are submitted via email to: WIAyouth@detma.org. Please include the contact information for the individual who we may directly contact to request additional detail or discuss the issue at hand. DCS will respond directly as well as format questions, as appropriate, to be posted on the WIA Youth Q & A website.

DCS is developing internal administrative protocols and systems relevant to this transfer of authority and fully intends to engage LWIBs, Youth Councils, One-Stop Career Center Operators and local youth providers to assure continuity of service throughout this transition period.

Effective: Immediately

Inquiries: Direct all inquiries regarding this Issuance to Lisa Caissie Lcaissie@detma.org; please include Issuance number. and title..