



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.193

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MassHire DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: July 29, 2020

Subject: **FY'20 Appropriation Request for Qualifications for the Learn to Earn Initiative – Training and Placement Pilot Programs**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other local workforce development partners of the FY'20 Appropriation Request for Qualifications for the Learn to Earn Initiative – Training and Placement Pilot Programs through Commonwealth Corporation.

Background: On behalf of the Executive Offices of Labor and Workforce Development, Education, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Economic Development, Commonwealth Corporation is pleased to announce the release of the **FY'20 Appropriation Request for Qualifications for the Learn to Earn Initiative: Training and Placement Pilot Programs.**

The Learn to Earn Initiative (LTE), originally proposed by Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karen Polito and adopted by the Legislature in the FY18 General Appropriations Act, is a comprehensive approach to providing unemployed and

An equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TDD/TTY 1-800-439-2370 - Voice 1-800-439-0183

underemployed individuals who are receiving assistance from public benefit programs with the supports, skills, and credentials they need to gain and retain employment in occupations for which employers have persistent demand.

Now in its third round, this year's funding opportunity intends to support the design or re-design of sector-based training and placement programs that will incorporate intensive financial coaching, benefits counseling, and robust post-placement services for unemployed and underemployed Massachusetts residents who are receiving public assistance and seek connections to high-demand career pathways that support increased earned income and family economic stability.

In the context of rapidly shifting economic conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic coupled with persistent racial inequities and related workforce challenges in the Commonwealth, this LTE round is intended to support additional pilot programs that can leverage learning from the initial rounds to ensure the impact of LTE programming innovations and policy reforms continue to reach populations who have traditionally experienced higher rates of unemployment and barriers to employment, including populations emphasized by the [Black Advisory Commission](#) and [Latino Advisory Commission](#).

Commonwealth Corporation seeks qualified partnerships that, upon successful grant award, will work with Commonwealth Corporation for a duration of three to four months to design or re-design an occupationally specific training and placement program that will:

- increase participants' earned income (net of any resulting decrease in public benefits),
- improve participants' and their families' economic stability, and
- meet employers' demand for talent.

Following the three-to-four-month program design period, each partnership will, upon review and approval of their implementation plan, be awarded funding to implement their program for approximately two years.

Questions will be accepted in writing through August 28, 2020 by 5:00 PM.

Please submit these via email to Anthony Britt at abritt@commcorp.org. Prospective applicants are able to receive email notifications when new questions are posted online by signing up at the following link:
<https://commcorp.tfaforms.net/328841>

The deadline to submit responses is September 9, 2020 by 11:59 PM.

Please upload your submission electronically to the following link:
<https://commcorp.tfaforms.net/328842>

Please see the **Request for Qualifications** for more information.
<http://commcorp.org/available-funding/>

Action

Requested: Please share with all appropriate managers, staff and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately