

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 14-103**

☐ 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 Operations Managers

**cc:** WIA State Partners

**From:** Alice Sweeney, Director  
Department of Career Services

**Date:** December 1, 2014

**Subject:** **Applications for New Awards – Performance Partnership Pilots Bidders Conference Sponsored by Workforce3One**

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**Purpose:** To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of a Workforce3One conference to present details of the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for new awards for Performance Partnership Pilots through the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education.

**Background:** The Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) program, authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, Division H, Section 526 (the Act), will enable up to 10 pilot sites to test innovative, outcome-focused strategies to achieve significant improvements in educational, employment, and other key outcomes for disconnected youth using new flexibility to blend existing Federal funds and seek waivers of associated program requirements. P3 pilots will receive start-up grants to support ongoing planning, streamlined governance, strengthened data infrastructure, improved coordination, and related activities to help pilots improve outcomes for disconnected youth.

The Act authorizes the Departments of Education (ED), Labor (DOL), and Health and Human Services (HHS), the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and/or the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) (collectively, the Agencies), to enter into a total of up to 10 Performance

Partnership Agreements (performance agreements) with State, local, or tribal governments to provide additional flexibility in using certain of the Agencies FY 2014 discretionary funds including competitive and certain formula grant funds, across multiple Federal programs.

Representatives from Federal agencies will present the details of the NIA on P3, including application requirements and selection criteria, for potential applicants.

**Date: December 1, 2014**

**Time: 3:30 to 5:00 (ET)**

### **Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) Bidders Conference**

**Register Now:**

**<https://www.workforce3one.org/view/5001427539847497608/info>**

Entities that seek to participate in these pilots will have to commit to achieving significant improvements in outcomes for disconnected youth in exchange for this new flexibility. Section 526(a)(2) of the Act states that “ ‘to improve outcomes for disconnected youth’ means to increase the rate at which individuals between the ages of 14 and 24 (who are low-income and either homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile justice system, unemployed, or not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution) achieve success in meeting educational employment, or other key goals.”

P3 will support a youth-centric approach to service pathways by enabling pilot sites to define the key outcomes that youth in the target population should achieve and to coordinate services so they can achieve those outcomes. Key features of successful P3 proposals:

1. Identify the pilot’s target population through a needs assessment
2. Use data and evaluations to determine the most effective strategies for serving the target population
3. Propose appropriate funding streams to blend in order to support the strategies
4. Identify the flexibilities, both Federal and non-Federal, pilots need in order to implement the strategies
5. Enter into performance agreement with a lead Federal agency (designated by OMB) and pilot partners

Because a diverse group of communities could benefit from P3, the Secretary establishes an absolute priority for applications.

Absolute Priority 1 – Improving Outcomes for Disconnected Youth

Absolute Priority 2 – Improving Outcomes for Disconnected Youth in Rural Communities

Absolute Priority 3 – Improving Outcomes for Disconnected Youth in Tribal Communities.

**Application requirements and criterion points are as follows:**

Statement of Need for a Defined Target Population (**5 points**)

Flexibility / Need for Requested Waivers (**10 points**)

Project Design **(25 points)**  
Work Plan and Project Management **(10 points)**  
Partnership Capacity **(15 points)**  
Data and Evaluation Capacity **(30 points)**  
Budget and Budget Narrative **(5 points)**

**Program Requirements include:**

- A) In addition to any site-specific evaluations that pilots may undertake, the Agencies are initiating a national P3 evaluation
- B) All P3 pilots must participate in a community of practice that includes an annual in-person meeting of pilot sites (paid with grant funding that must be reflected in the pilot budget submitted)
- C) P3 Pilots must secure necessary consent from parents, guardians, students, or youth program participants to access data for their pilots and any evaluations, in accordance with applicable Federal, State, local and tribal laws.
- D) Each P3 pilot, along with other non-Federal government entities involved in the partnership, must enter into a performance agreement.

**Award Information:**

Type of Award:	Cooperative agreement
Estimated Available Funds:	Up to \$7,100,000
Estimated Range of Awards:	\$400,000 to \$700,000
Estimated Number of Awards:	10
Project Period:	Not to extend beyond September 30, 2018

**Eligibility Information:**

1. Eligible Applicants: An application must be submitted by a lead applicant on behalf of a partnership that involves all public and private organizations that will participate in pilot implementation and governance. The lead applicant must be a State, local, or tribal government entity, represented by a Chief Executive, such as a governor, mayor, or other elected leader, or the head of a State, local, or tribal agency.
2. Cost-Sharing or Matching: This program does not require cost-sharing or matching.

Notice of Intent to apply to U.S. Department of Education, by electronic submission, is January 8, 2015.

**Action**

**Required:** Please review the attached **Department of Education, Applications for New Awards: Performance Partnership Pilots** notice. Interested areas should register for the webinar as quickly as possible as seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. The DCS Central Office has reserved a seat for anyone interested and in the area.

**Attachment:** **Department of Education, Applications for New Awards: Performance Partnership Pilots** notice.