

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 14.199

☐ Policy

☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Development Board Chairs
Workforce Development Board Directors
Title I Administrators
Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: June 28, 2017

Subject: **Best Practices in Supportive Services for Women in Apprenticeship and Employment - Webinar**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of the WorkforceGPS webinar: [*Best Practices in Supportive Services for Women in Apprenticeship and Employment*](#) on Wednesday, June 28th from 1:00pm – 2:00pm.

Background: Registered apprenticeship programs, pre-apprenticeship programs, employers, and organizations that serve women in occupations in which women are underrepresented strive to support them in their first few years of employment.

They do so by providing essential services aimed at helping women overcome common barriers. Whether women start out in apprenticeship programs or go directly into occupations where they are underrepresented, supportive services are a necessary ingredient for their success.

Properly implemented, these supportive services can ensure retention of women in the skilled trades and other blue-collar, nontraditional occupations. These practices range from assistance in navigating complicated bureaucracies to finding and securing quality childcare that accommodates the schedule in such occupations.

If your organization runs an apprenticeship program or is a pre-apprenticeship training provider, an employer, or a workforce practitioner, this webinar is for you! Hear from a researcher who has examined best practices to retain women in the trades and from direct-services professionals who are creatively and successfully employing these best practices. An open Q&A session for webinar participants will follow the presentations.

A WorkforceGPS account is required for registration. WorkforceGPS is the next generation, device-friendly website for peer-to-peer connection and resources. Click [here](#) to create a free account.

Action

Requested: Please share the information with staff and partners as appropriate.