



DEPARTMENT OF  
CAREER SERVICES

# Workforce Issuance

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**100 DCS 14.400**

☐ Policy ☒ Information

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**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:** April 30, 2021

**Subject:** **Practices in Workforce Employment Network Operation – New Technical Guidance – WorkforceGPS Webinar**

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**Purpose:** To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other local workforce partners of the WorkforceGPS webinar: Practices in Workforce Employment Network (EN) Operation – New Technical Guidance. The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 4:30.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), along with the Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Social Security Administration (SSA), developed an Employment Network (EN) technical guide for American Job Centers. This session will provide highlights from the technical guide, which is specifically designed to help workforce entities navigate the process of becoming and operating as a Workforce EN.

Nationally, nearly 100 workforce entities have partnered with SSA and established themselves as an EN to increase the capacity of the public workforce system to include individuals with significant disabilities in local career pathway

An equal opportunity employer/program.

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

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models. Workforce ENs participating in Ticket to Work help beneficiaries receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) return to work or enter the workforce for the first time. DOL, through the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI), has been a bridge between SSA and the workforce system by requiring DEI projects to become an EN to administer the Ticket to Work program. Participation as a workforce system in the Ticket to Work program has resulted in positive outcomes in two key areas by: 1) providing a source of income to help the American Job Center enhance services; and 2) helping job seekers with disabilities who are receiving SSA benefits return to or enter the workforce.

In this national webinar, ETA will promote the advantages this opportunity provides to local systems, in addition to releasing a new “Employment Network Technical Guide” and accompanying “Desk Aid” for use by active Workforce ENs and those workforce entities contemplating the operation as an EN. This session will also provide participants with an opportunity to hear about the experiences of 3 current workforce systems from the Workforce EN operators themselves.

WorkforceGPS is an online technical assistance website created to help build the capacity of America's public workforce investment system. Sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor, WorkforceGPS was developed specifically for workforce professionals, educators, and business leaders. WorkforceGPS is free but does require account registration.

**Action**

**Requested:** Please share this issuance with all appropriate managers, staff and partners.

**Effective:** Immediately