



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 14.455

☐ 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: May 27, 2022

Subject: **The Opioid Crisis in the Construction Industry - WorkforceGPS Webinar**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other workforce partners of an upcoming WorkforceGPS webinar – The Opioid Crisis in the Construction Industry, June 9, 2022 from 1:30 – 2:30.

Background: The Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) Office of Workforce Investment (OWI) is rolling out a Summer Series of technical assistance on the role of the workforce system in serving individuals with substance use disorders. OWI, in partnership with the Center for Construction Research and Training (CPRW) is hosting a webinar on mental health and opioid conditions in the construction industry, highlighting current research and sharing evidence-based solutions.

According to the Center for Construction Research and Training (CPRW), the construction industry has one of the highest injury rates in the United States and construction workers are significantly more likely to die from an opioid overdose

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than the average worker due to being prescribed opioids to relieve occupational injuries. Created by the North American Building Trades Union (NABTU) to address the opioid crisis in the construction industry, CPRW focuses on reducing injuries, illnesses and fatalities among construction workers, and has developed resources to combat opioid substance abuse in the construction industry by providing resources and trainings to increase the awareness of opioid use. Guest speakers from CPRW will discuss how opioid use among the construction workforce has impacted the construction industry and the preventions the organization is currently implementing to fight opioid substance abuse.

It is encouraged to visit ETA's National Dislocated Worker webpage <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/dislocated-workers/grants> and the Dislocated Worker Community of Practice <https://dwg.workforcegps.org/> to learn more about the investments made to address the economic and workforce impacts of the opioid crisis.

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 with all managers, staff and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately.