



# Workforce Issuance

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☐ 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:** Diane Hurley, Acting Director  
MassHire Department of Career Services

**Date:** October 21, 2022

**Subject:** **Supported Employment and Substance Use Disorder - WorkforceGPS Webinar**

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**Purpose:** To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other workforce partners of an upcoming WorkforceGPS webinar – Supported Employment and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:30.

**Background:** Guest speaker, Robert Drake, M.D, Ph.D., Vice President for Social Policy and Economics Research at Westat, Inc. will present on Supported Employment and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and how Job Centers can successfully place individuals with SUD in employment through Individual Placement and Support (IPS).

Job Centers can successfully place individuals with SUD in employment through IPS. Individual Placement and Support is evidence-based supported employment

for people with behavioral health conditions and places them in job opportunities that interest them on play to their strengths. It is simple, direct, inexpensive, and effective. For individuals with substance use disorders, employment is tied to increased self-esteem, improved financial security, reduced mental health symptoms, less social isolation, reduced substance use, and reduced health care costs. As a result, IPS improves competitive employment outcomes for people with many conditions.

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.