

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 19.109

☐ 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: December 8, 2017

Subject: **Youth Cohort Challenge**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators, youth service providers and other workforce partners of the Youth Cohort Challenge Announcement from the Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

Background: DOL/ETA will select between 5 and 7 teams of 3-5 participants (cohort) from a local area that will collaborate through an organized process to develop solutions to improve system integration around the question, “What Does it Take to Effectively Engage and Retain Out-of-School Youth Throughout the Program Lifespan?”

The cohort challenge will be delivered virtually over 12 weeks during February – April. The cohort process will work towards the following outcomes:

- Help cohort members address the challenge in their own local areas.
- Develop a practical solution to the challenge to be disseminated to the field nationally.
- Serve as an overall “Innovation Lab” for ideas that could drive integration and promote increased efficiencies and improved outcomes.

Applications for the Youth Cohort Challenge are due December 15th. For more information on the Youth Cohort Challenge please review Attachments A & B, the Overview and Application. For more information, please contact cohorts@mahernet.com.

Action

Required: Please share this information with staff and partners as appropriate.

Attachments: A. Youth Cohort Challenge Overview
B. Youth Cohort Challenge Application