

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.164

☐ 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: July 31, 2018

Subject: **Training Resources and Internship Networks (TRAIN) Grant Program**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other workforce investment partners of available funds for training and education under awards made to local Community Colleges to assist long-term unemployed, under-employed and new entrant adult workers who seek to enter/reenter the workforce by providing eligible individuals with a comprehensive program of training and wrap around support services designed to result in meaningful employment.

Proposals must document sufficient regional employer hiring demand to recruit and potentially hire prospective completers of the TRAIN grant proposals. The TRAIN grant RFP has been posted to CommBuys:

<https://www.commbuys.com/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=BD-19-1088-RGT01-RGT01-29806&external=true&parentUrl=bid>

Background: It has been ten years since the 2008 Global Financial Crisis/Great Recession began to displace many Massachusetts workers from long-tenured jobs, too often resulting in extended periods of unemployment. Unfortunately, despite a greatly strengthened economy, some adult workers continue to face jarring career transitions and the potential for extended periods of unemployment while others

confront the challenge of securing their first job in Massachusetts knowledge-based economy.

Adult workers are sometimes displaced from jobs due to global competition while others face accelerating technology disruptions that make it difficult, if not impossible, to keep current with the rapidly advancing tools of industry. Some new entrants to our community arrive with foreign credentials that do not easily transfer while others lack sufficient basic education (English literacy, numeracy, sciences) and a cultural awareness of the expectations for work place readiness to attain a first job.

The TRAIN grant program of 2016 was launched to engage long-term unemployed adults, offering foundational education programs, wrap-around support services and industry specific skills training that would enable entry or reentry into the workforce. The TRAIN program of 2018 has been updated to address current employment realities will address an even broader scope of adult workforce challenges and opportunities.

Action

Requested: Please share with appropriate partners.

Attachments: A. TRAIN RFP
B. TRAIN Cover Page
C. TRAIN Budget Worksheet