



Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: April 27, 2022

Subject: FutureSkills Initiative and Regional Upskilling Roadshows

Purpose: To provide MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners with information on the FutureSkills Initiative and Regional Upskilling Roadshows.

Background: The Commonwealth's Workforce Skills Cabinet (WSC), charged with creating and implementing strategies to ensure that individuals develop and continuously improve their skills and knowledge to meet the varying hiring needs of employers will invest \$240M in combined state and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds over the next four years to build capacity of education and training systems in Massachusetts.

FutureSkills Initiative

Through the "FutureSkills" (Upskilling) Initiative, the WSC has invested ARPA funds to expand the scale of "upskilling" pathways across education, training, and workforce providers in partnership with employers that prepare

unemployed and underemployed individuals with the training and skills needed to meet business demand.

Commonwealth Corporation, on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and the WSC, will administer training programs under the umbrella of the FutureSkills Initiative. These training programs include:

- [Career Technical Initiative \(CTI\)](#),
- [Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund \(WCTF\)](#),
- [Replenishing Employer investment in Education and Workforce Training \(RENEW\)](#)

Information about FutureSkills and the training programs available through this initiative can be found at www.mass.gov/futureskills.

FutureSkills Regional Upskilling Roadshows

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including MassHire Career Centers, MassHire Workforce Boards and the Commonwealth Corporation, is hosting a series of 10 regional employer road shows from late April to May, with the goal of connecting employers to new and existing workforce supports from the Commonwealth.

The roadshows will be hosted by workforce partners, including community colleges and vocational training institutes. Each event will be ~1.5 hours and will have roughly the same agenda.

Agenda

- Opening remarks by host and VIPs
- Overview of Commonwealth workforce resources for employers
- Introduction to Market Makers
- Breakout sessions
- Market Maker / MassHire Engagement Session
- Workforce Development Roundtable
- (Optional) Tour of the facilities / meet the students

MassHire staff are encouraged to direct companies to the FutureSkills Regional Upskilling Roadshows (including those companies who could not register for HireNow.)

To learn more about the FutureSkills Regional Upskilling Roadshows and to register click [here](#).

Action

Requested: Please ensure all appropriate managers and staff are familiar with and have a full understanding of the contents of this issuance.

Inquiries: Email all inquiries in related to this issuance to PolicyQA@massmail.state.ma.us