



MASSACHUSETTS
WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT
JOINT PARTNER COMMUNICATION

WIOA Joint Partner Communication 03.2024

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers
Adult Education Providers
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Offices and Providers
Massachusetts Commission for the Blind Offices and Providers
Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Providers
Dept. of Transitional Assistance Offices and providers of SNAP and TANF services

From: Diane Hurley, Acting Director
MassHire Department of Career Services
Katie Dishnica, Director
Department of Unemployment Assistance
Toni Wolf, Commissioner
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
John Oliveira, Commissioner
Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
Wyvonne Stevens-Carter, State Adult Education Director
Dept of Elementary and Secondary Ed, Adult and Community Learning Services
Olga Yulikova, Senior Community Service Employment Manager
Executive Office of Elder Affairs
Jeffery McCue, Commissioner
Department of Transitional Assistance

Date: March 15, 2024

Subject: Perkins State Plan Public Comment Announcement

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other local workforce partners that the Department of- Elementary and Secondary Ed (DESE) has posted the Perkins State Plan for public comment on the [DESE website](#) and offer an oral comment forum.

Background: In May, DESE's Office of College, Career and Technical Education will submit an updated Perkins V State Plan to the federal government aligned to [DESE's Educational Vision](#) and to the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), which provides approximately \$23 million in federal funding annually to Massachusetts for career-connected learning. Perkins grant funds are distributed based on youth population and poverty levels, target the highest need learners, and is meant to connect English language arts, math, and science proficiency with relevant, real-world learning experiences.

The Office of College, Career and Technical Education sought input from stakeholders throughout 2023 and has drafted the state plan to build on the Commonwealth's strong foundation and to make adjustments that will help provide all Massachusetts students with access to high-quality, career-connected learning opportunities. The state plan will be [posted for public comment](#) until **Wednesday, April 10**. Stakeholders are encouraged to review the state plan and provide feedback during this time.

People can provide feedback by:

- Visiting [DESE's Perkins Funding webpage](#), where the state plan, an executive summary, and supporting materials are posted, along with a survey to provide public comment.
- Attending the oral public comment forum webinar. The Department will host a webinar on March 26. They will *not* feature a presentation of the state plan and will be solely for stakeholders to share comments on the plan. Participants should review the state plan materials prior to attending the webinar. The webinar will be held on the following date, and participants are asked to register in advance:
 - **3:30-4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26** | [Register here](#)

Anyone with questions about this process is asked to please email Cody Meador at ccte@mass.gov.