

Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 03.112

Policy
□ Information

То:	Chief Elected Officials MassHire Workforce Board Chairs MassHire Workforce Board Directors Title I Administrators MassHire Career Center Directors Title I Fiscal Officers MDCS Operations Managers
cc:	WIOA State Partners
From:	Alice Sweeney, Director MassHire Department of Career Services
Date:	July 9, 2019
Subject:	Open Meeting Law
Purpose:	To update the MassHire Workforce Open Meeting Law Policy Issuance with regard to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law (OML) and compliance as it pertains to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This policy replaces WIA Policy #11-05.
Background:	In addition to the Open Meeting (<i>Sunshine Provision</i>) requirement of WIOA Secs 101(g) and 107(e), the Massachusetts Attorney General provides Open Meeting Law regulations, 940 CMR 29.00-29.11. The updated regulations streamline, modernize, and clarify <u>Open Meeting Law</u> (OML) compliance while simultaneously sustaining the law's spirit of transparency covering all public bodies; M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18 through 25.
	A public body is a multiple-member board, commission, committee or

subcommittee within the executive or legislative branch or within any county, district, city, region or town, however created, elected, appointed or otherwise

constituted, which is established to serve a public purpose. The intent of the Open Meeting Law is to ensure transparency in the deliberations upon which public policy is based. Such transparency is aided in part by the Law's requirement for public bodies to provide notice of meetings, engage in open deliberation and guarantee public access (with some exceptions).

Policy: In accordance with WIOA Sec 107 (e) — The local board shall make available to the public, on a regular basis through electronic means and open meetings, information regarding the activities of the local board, including information regarding the local plan prior to submission of the plan, and regarding membership, the designation and certification of one-stop operators, and the award of grants or contracts to eligible providers of youth workforce investment activities, and on request, minutes of formal meetings of the local board.

In addition to requirements of WIOA, MassHire Workforce Boards must comply with meeting and record requirements as prescribed in the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, MGL Ch. 30A, §§ 18-25 and regulations at 940 CMR § 29.00 – 29.11.

Action

- **Required:** Pursuant to guidance provided herein, each MassHire Workforce Board must review its meeting and record procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements with both WIOA and MGL Ch. 30A, §§ 18-25 and the regulations at 940 CMR § 29.00 29.11.
- References: https://www.mass.gov/the-open-meeting-law
- Effective: Immediately
- **Inquiries:** Please email questions to <u>PolicyQA@MassMail.State.MA.US</u>. Please indicate the Issuance number and subject.