



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: January 4, 2021

Subject: **TAA Co-Enrollment and Integrating Services with WIOA Title I Dislocated Worker Program**

Purpose: To provide guidance to MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other workforce partners for integrating services for Trade-affected workers under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Dislocated Worker (DW) Program as outlined in Training and Employment Guidance Letter [\(TEGL No. 4-20\)](#), released by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) / Department of Labor (DOL) on October 29, 2020.

Background: WIOA emphasizes integrating services to better serve workforce customers. The TAA Final Rule furthers this effort by providing staffing flexibilities and requiring the co-enrollment of trade-affected workers with the WIOA DW program.

ETA published a Final Rule implementing the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 on August 21, 2020 (85 FR 51896). The TAA Final Rule is codified at 20 CFR Part 618 and became effective on September 21, 2020.

Policy: Section 618.325 of the TAA Final Rule mandates co-enrollment between the TAA Program and WIOA DW Program and strongly encourages co-enrollment in other programs to ensure coordinated services for trade-affected workers.

Co-enrollment requirements in the Trade Adjustment Assistance Final Rule, Section 618.325, apply to the TAA Program and WIOA DW program if a trade-affected worker is eligible for the WIOA DW program. The MassHire Workforce System is to ensure all appropriate staff are aware of this guidance and apply it to customers as appropriate.

WIOA Section 121 designates the TAA Program as a required one-stop partner and 20 CFR 618.305 directs states to ensure the TAA Program complies with WIOA's one-stop partnership requirements, which include, among other requirements, paying infrastructure costs where the TAA Program is being carried out. Cross-training of case managers and other staff is important for successful integration and to ensure knowledge and understanding of all partner program requirements.

Co-enrollment can further be enhanced and expanded to include a broad range of services available through other workforce programs to produce successful outcomes. Such programs may include, but are not limited to, Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) activities, WIOA Adult program, WIOA DWGs, Unemployment Insurance (UI), other WIOA partner programs, faith-based and community based programs, vocational rehabilitation services, and services for Veterans.

To improve program coordination and co-enrollment, ETA has issued several resources on the TAA website including two fact sheets discussing perceived barriers that may arise and their potential solutions: *"Perceived Barriers of Cost & Performance"* and *"Perceived Barriers of Differing Eligibility & Benefit Service Provision."*

They are located at www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/tradeact/practitioners/benefits.

Action Required: Please assure that all appropriate staff persons are knowledgeable of and comply with the content of this Policy Issuance, the TAA Final Rule and TEGL No 4-20.

Effective: Immediately.

Inquiries: Please direct all inquiries to PolicyQA@detma.org. Also, indicate Issuance number and description.

Resources: Fact sheets – perceived barriers:
[Perceived Barriers of Cost & Performance](#) and
[Perceived Barriers of Differing Eligibility & Benefit Service Provision](#)

Attachment: A – Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 4-20