

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 14.109

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Board Chairs
Workforce 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: August 26, 2015

Subject: **Disability Inclusion: Building a Strong Workforce - Save the Date**

Purpose: To request Local Workforce Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners to save the date of December 9th for the Work Without Limits training session designed to teach Career Center staff skills that will improve their ability to assist individual with disabilities.

Background: The Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) State Partners (UMass Medical Center, Work Without Limits, and UMass Boston, Institute for Community Inclusion) are collaborating to offer a training session for Workforce Development Professionals, including Business Service Representatives, Career Counselors, Disability Resource Coordinators, Disabled Veterans Outreach Program staff and other One Stop Career Center sand Workforce Board staff and Directors. The program will include speakers, a panel presentation, small group activities and breakout sessions. The training session will provide attendees skills and knowledge on the following topics:

- Consider WIOA and what it means for customers with disabilities
- Explore the full meaning of accessibility
- Learn communication and etiquette tips from people who live it
- Examine stereotypes and the impact attitudes have on customers

- Review best practices to prepare customers around disclosure and accommodation issues
- Gain a full understanding of why businesses strive to hire people with disabilities
- Develop current business outreach strategies and messages to overcome employer objections
- Discover new ways business service representatives and career advisors can work together on behalf of customers with disabilities

When: Wednesday, December 9, 2015
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where: College of the Holy Cross
1 College Street
Worcester, MA 01610

Cost: This training is provided at no cost to participants through the MA Disability Employment Initiative Grants.

Capacity: The first 75 Workforce Development Professionals who register.

Registration details are forth coming. This is a Save the Date notification.

Inquiries: Please direct inquiries to Jason Albert at jalbert@detma.org or Kathy Petkauskos at Kathy.Petkauskos@umassmed.edu.

Attachment: Disability Inclusion: Building a Strong Workforce Save the Date flyer