

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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Policy

Information

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Development Board Chairs  
Workforce Development 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 8, 2017

**Subject:** **Dislocated Worker Opportunity Grants / CALL FOR IDEAS**

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**Purpose:** The Department of Career Services is seeking input from local areas with regard to the announcement of Funding Opportunity, [ETA-TEGL-01-2017](#), *Dislocated Worker Opportunity Grants* through the Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announced August 1, 2017 on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

**Background:** DOL announced the availability of up to \$35 million for Dislocated Worker Opportunity Grants (DWOs). Individual awards will be up to 4.3 million and based on each applicant's share of calendar year 2016 monthly averages of the Civilian Labor Force (CLF), as well as unemployment levels. The purpose of this funding is to enable eligible applicants to serve dislocated workers, who are unemployed and seeking reentry into the workforce, with career services and training which increases their skill levels to become competitive for growing or high-demand employment opportunities. These grants will be funded through the National Dislocated Worker Grant program. National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) are discretionary grants awarded by the Secretary of Labor under section 170 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). DWGs provide time-limited employment and training assistance to dislocated workers in response to major economic dislocations or other events that affect the U.S. workforce, and which cannot be accommodated with WIOA formula funds or

other relevant existing resources. For the purpose of the DWOOG solicitation, the Department has recognized the impact of ongoing smaller dislocation events over time as a major dislocation event eligible for DWG assistance. The primary goals of the DWOOGs are:

- 1.) to expand opportunities for dislocated workers to upgrade skills that lead to employment or industry-recognized credentials in growing or high-demand industries and occupations; and
- 2.) to address the skill gaps faced by employers in growing or high-demand industries.

In order to support an American economy that provides opportunity for all, worker skills must align with the needs of growing or high-demand industries. DWOOGs will focus on job training that provides dislocated workers, who are unlikely to return to previous occupations, an opportunity to retool and re-engage in high-growth sectors of the economy.

<b>Funding Opportunity Number:</b>	ETA-TEGL-01-17
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	August 31, 2017
<b>Estimated Total Funding:</b>	\$35,000,000
<b>Award Ceiling:</b>	\$4,300,000**
<b>Expected Number of Awards:</b>	57
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	States or outlying areas, or a consortium of states/outlying areas or an entity described in sec. 166(c) of WIOA

\*\* According to TEGL 01-17, Attachment C, Massachusetts award amount, based on hypothetical PY 2016 End of Program Year Dislocated Worker Grants, would be \$692,925.

### **Action**

**Requested:** Please share with managers, staff and partners as appropriate. We encourage the submission of ideas for this application. Please email to Leslie Seifried at [Leslie.Seifried@MassMail.State.MA.US](mailto:Leslie.Seifried@MassMail.State.MA.US) by close of business Monday, August 14, 2017.