



DEPARTMENT OF  
CAREER SERVICES

# Workforce Issuance

---

100 DCS 34.115

☐ Policy ☒ Information

---

**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs  
MassHire Workforce Board Directors  
MassHire Career Center Directors  
MassHire Fiscal Officers  
MassHire DCS Operations Managers

**cc:** WIOA State Partners

**From:** Alice Sweeney, Director  
MassHire Department of Career Services

**Date:** April 21, 2022

**Subject:** HireNow Preregistration Closed

---

**Purpose:** To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other local workforce development partners that as of today, the HireNow program is **closed to new employers pre-registering** in the system due to the high volume of employers who have already pre-registered compared to the availability of resources.

**Background:** HireNow provides funding to eligible Massachusetts employers who hire and retain Massachusetts residents. Funding is awarded at a flat rate of \$4,000 for each eligible newly hired employee. The goal of HireNow is to address hiring challenges experienced by Massachusetts employers because of the COVID-19 pandemic. HireNow provides resources to enable Massachusetts employers to broaden their recruiting practices to include workers who do not meet traditional qualifications but can fulfill job requirements with additional training upon hire. Employers are encouraged to rethink hiring practices, minimum qualifications, and onboarding processes to consider candidates with qualification that may differ from traditional standards to increase staffing levels in a tight labor market.

An equal opportunity employer/program.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TDD/TTY 1-800-439-2370 - Voice 1-800-439-0183

HireNow is administered by Commonwealth Corporation on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

**Current  
Status:**

Effective April 21, 2022, the HireNow program is **closed to new employers pre-registering** in the system due to the high volume of employers who have already pre-registered compared to the availability of resources.

Beginning on Monday April 25<sup>th</sup>, all employers who pre-registered prior to April 21st will be able to go into the system, follow additional application steps, and start to register “new hires” (made after March 23<sup>rd</sup>) for review and approval.

- EOLWD has notified the Legislature and business stakeholder groups regarding the closure of the pre-registration process.
- Mass.gov/hirenow website has been updated (see below).
- An email communication has been sent to companies who did pre-register in the HireNow system. The email covers how to update their employer account (with additional employer verification information and employer steps to migrate their account to a new underlying, data platform). *See message below.*

Additional communication on next steps in the process, individual employer review of new hires submitted to the system, or account status, and other issues will continue.

If employers have questions about their account or steps in the process, please continue to encourage them to use the following resources to ask questions:

- Please send an email to [HIRENOW@COMMCORP.ORG](mailto:HIRENOW@COMMCORP.ORG) use or use the “Help & Support” [form](#) to submit questions or request support.
- Monday through Friday from 9 am – 5 pm you may call (617) 789-8573 for live support.

**The message on the HireNow website:**

*“HireNow preregistration is closed. New employer preregistrations are not being accepted at this time. The HireNow program has received very high demand from employers and no new employer preregistrations are being accepted at this time. If additional funding is made available for the program, preregistrations for new employers will reopen at a date to be determined.”*

If you are talking to an employer who wanted to access training dollars through HireNow but did not pre-register, please connect them to your region’s Market

Maker to talk about CTI, Donnelly grants (WCTF), Workforce Training Fund for incumbent training, or MassStep or other local programming /resources with active funding on the street.

In addition, we are working on an updated webinar for MassHire to review the next steps of the process for employers beginning Monday, April 25th.

**Action**

**Requested:** Please share this issuance with all appropriate staff and partners.

**Effective:** Immediately