

Mass Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 18.101

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Development Chairs
Workforce Development 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: April 23, 2015

Subject: **Instructions for Local Input: WIOA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**

Purpose: The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (DOL/ETA) has posted the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for public review and comment. This communication is to notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce development partners of the process for the submission of local comments to be forwarded to U.S. DOL by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD) on behalf of the Governor. The Department of Career Services (DCS) will collect, organize and prepare the comments from the Massachusetts workforce development system for submittal to U.S. DOL.

Background: On April 16, 2015, U.S. DOL released Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 29-14, Change 1, announcing the publication of the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) in the Federal Register. The NPRMs are in five parts, each addressing different aspects of the law.

The NPRMs are subject to a review and comment period to provide the states with the opportunity to submit comments on the five proposed rules. Comments, both in support of the regulatory language and those that call attention to potential problems with the language are equally important. For example, NPRM language that supports a particular state's workforce development vision could be altered if a number of other states adversely comment on said language.

DCS will collect and organize input from the local workforce development system, compiling the collective input for Massachusetts in a single, comprehensive, non-duplicative document.

Action

Required: Please adhere to the following process for the submission of comments.

1. A template has been developed to facilitate submittal of comments to DCS. Please use ONLY the **WIOA NPRM Template** provided as an attachment to this issuance to submit your input.
2. Please review the draft Federal Regulations posted on the April 16th, 2015 Federal Register. Use only these source documents so that individual comments can be readily organized by page number and citation reference. The individual NPRM links are given below:
 - [Unified and Combined State Plans, Performance Accountability, and the One-Stop System Joint Provision](#)
 - [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#)
 - [Adult Education and Family Literacy Act \(AEFLA\)](#)
 - [State Vocational Rehabilitation Services program; State Supported Employment Services program; Limitations on Use of Subminimum Wage](#)
 - [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Miscellaneous Program Changes](#)
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3. Please review the attachment “*Tips for Submitting Effective Comments*” provided to assist in crafting comments on the NPRMs.
4. Please assign a **single point person** to collect local area or association comments.
5. That point person is to be identified in the WIOA NPRM Template and will be the single point of contact for questions or request for clarification from DCS staff.
6. Please enter all information into the appropriate column on the template, identifying:
 - a. Federal Register page number
 - b. Section (§)
 - c. The referenced WIOA text
 - d. Local commentary for the identified section
 - e. Submit template to WIOA@detma.org no later than May 12th

Please submit the completed WIOA NPRM Template to WIOA@detma.org no later than close of business, **May 12, 2015**. Only comments submitted on the attached template will be reviewed.

Note: this due date is driven by the requirement for states to provide comments to NASWA/NGA by May 18. DCS will provide immediate notification if there is an extension to this deadline.

Inquiries: Inquiries regarding this issuance can be made through the WIOA@detma.org mailbox.

Attachments: A. Regulations.gov – [Tips for Submitting Effective Comments](#)
B. WIOA NPRM Input Template