

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FROM DOL ETA: up to \$1,100,000.

*Reference: TEGL 5-16, Reemployment & System Integration Dislocated Worker Grants, 08.09.16*

### GRANT GOALS

The grant is designed to provide seed money to implement technology solutions that support and improve connectivity among existing State IT systems and databases in at least one of three specific areas:

1. Common registration and case management across the Title I Dislocated Worker (DW) program, the Employment Service (ES) program, and the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program at a minimum. Encouragement is given to inclusion of TAA (Trade Adjustment Assistance) and Rapid Response services, both of which provide support to dislocated workers or employers facing layoffs or closure.
2. Implementation of robust on-line service delivery hubs that integrate the information and on-line services across the DW, ES and UI programs at a minimum.
3. Data integration strategies that support the ability of front-line staff to better connect dislocated workers to the services they need to get jobs in demand along career pathways and expand the capacity to provide career counseling to more customers.

Projects may support expansion, adaption, or enhancements of existing systems that increase integration and interconnectivity of systems. Given that grants are not sufficient to support whole new systems development, states should consider: leveraging existing functionality; adopting or adapting applications or technology solutions such as Workforce Connect; leveraging data infrastructure; focusing on lower cost front-end experience as a starting point versus back-end integration; and partnering with other states.

### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Improved services delivery and employment outcomes for dislocated workers.
2. More effective connections to all available services through integrated case management.
3. Prevention of long-term unemployment.
4. Increased early intervention and layoff aversion.
5. Increased accessibility to services through automation and self-service.
6. Enhanced identification of service delivery needs.

### PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR MASSACHUSETTS

Adoption of the Workforce Connect suite of applications to provide a cost effective interface to WIOA partner systems to support the following:

1. a common registration platform that meets the information security requirements of the Commonwealth and partner agencies and programs;
2. enhanced case management capabilities through the creation of dashboards for both job seekers and staff at Career Centers and other WIOA partner locations that displays information pertinent to the direct needs of the individuals being served; and
3. development of a structure that supports future enhancement and integration across WIOA partners; that allows for integration with on-line job seeker tools and other self-service applications; that permits identification and tracking of services and outcomes for job seekers across WIOA programs; and that supports performance reporting.