

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 14-37**

☐ Policy ☒ Information

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Investment Board Chairs  
Workforce Investment Board Directors  
Title I Administrators  
Career Center Directors  
Title I Fiscal Officers  
DCS Operations Managers

**cc:** WIA State Partners

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

**Date:** May 6, 2014

**Subject:** New NEG Funding Opportunity

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**Purpose:** To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of a funding opportunity being offered for a new Job Driven National Emergency Grant (JD NEG) program to implement new or expand local and regional job-driven partnerships that will serve dislocated workers and achieve better employment-related outcomes for this group of workers.

**Background:** National Emergency Grants (NEGs) are discretionary grants awarded by the Secretary of Labor under section 173 of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) that are intended to temporarily expand service capacity at the state and local levels by providing time-limited funding assistance in response to dislocation events.

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration is making available **up to \$150 million** for new **Job-Driven NEGs (JD NEG)**. Individual awards will range from \$500,000 to \$6 million. Official notification of the availability of these funds is contained in DOL "Training and Employment Notice" ([TEN No. 29-13](#), April 28, 2014).

Funding will be made available to states for expenditure through June 30, 2016 to implement new or expanded local and regional job-driven partnerships that provide workers opportunities to participate in work-based training, or

occupational training that results in an industry-recognized credential, and/or other non-training reemployment services, such as coaching, counseling, and direct job placement that will enable them to obtain employment in industry sectors with demonstrated demand.

**Eligible participants include:**

- Long-term unemployed jobseekers (unemployed for at least 27 weeks in aggregate since the recession of December 2007 – June 2009)
- UI recipients that have been profiled as likely to exhaust their benefits
- Foreign-trained immigrant workers, who qualify as dislocated workers, and have faced barriers to obtaining employment in their trained field or profession

**Applicants must address:**

- Workforce and Industry / Employer Partnerships – *local WIBs, employers and/or industry groups, training providers, such as community colleges, and other organizations, such as labor unions, nonprofit organizations, and community-based organizations*
- Participant Identification – *detail outreach, systems, processes and partners that will be used to identify and enroll eligible participants, especially long-term unemployed*
- Work-Based Training Models – *a key component effective in helping jobseekers to quickly reenter the workforce including:*
  - Registered Apprenticeship programs
  - On-the-Job Training (OJT) programs
  - Customized training
  - Career pathways programs
  - Accelerated learning models
- Alignment and Coordination with Other Resources – *describe delivery of service in coordination with **at least** two other federal, state, or local programs such as UI, WP Employment Service, WIA Adult/DW programs, TAA, Jobs for Veterans State Grants, Career and Technical Education, Adult Ed, Voc Rehab, TANF, SNAP, Economic Development, Transportation Infrastructure*

**Required:** As the turnaround time for this application is very brief (May 27<sup>th</sup>), please submit your summary of local area interest to Lisa Caissie, [Lcaissie@detma.org](mailto:Lcaissie@detma.org), by **COB Monday, May 12, 2014**.

In order to best position Massachusetts as an awardee, please include information about regional partnerships, sectors that have demonstrated demand for new employees, and/or groups of employers or industries with demand occupations that are concentrated in your regional economic area. Please include information that supports the ability of your area to meet the requirements of the grant (e.g. a minimum of 30% of funds must be used for Work-Based Learning).

The administrative structure of the NEG will be based loosely on the OJT NEG model. In Massachusetts, we are anticipating one primary operator and a vouchering component to permit participation from all sixteen workforce investment areas.

**Inquiries:** Questions regarding this issuance should be directed to Diane Hurley at [dhurley@detma.org](mailto:dhurley@detma.org).