MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

MassWorkforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 09-35

□ Policy ☑ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials

Workforce Investment Board Chairs Workforce Investment Board Directors

Title I Administrators Career Center Directors Title I Fiscal Officers DCS Regional Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Michael Taylor, Director

Department of Workforce Development

Date: May 22, 2009

Subject: Overview of Potential Green Jobs Grant Solicitations Under ARRA

Purpose: To provide notification to CEOs, Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career

Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners of potential grant solicitations for Green Job training and placement funded under the American Recovery

and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Background: The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

published Training and Employment Notice (TEN) No. 44-08, <u>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Competitive Grants for Green Job Training</u> (5/15/09) describing a potential series of competitive Solicitations for Grant Applications (SGAs) to be issued with regard to \$750 million made available under ARRA for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industries, \$500 million of which is slated for energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. See Attachment A.

The TEN describes five (5) distinct competitive solicitations that may be issued:

 State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants: individual or consortia of State Workforce Agencies to collect, analyze and disseminate LMI, as well as develop a labor exchange infrastructure to direct individuals to careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors described in §171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of WIA (amended by the Green Jobs Act of 2007: http://www.thomas.gov/cgi-bin/query/F?c110:2:./temp/~c110WzFcDd:e1620:v).

- 2. Energy Training Partnership Grants: Two separate applicant pools (eligible national labor-management organizations with local networks and statewide or local strategic non-profit partnerships consisting of labor-management organizations, labor, business, WIBs, and other organizations) will compete for grants to deliver training that leads to employment in careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors described in §171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of WIA.
- 3. Pathways Out of Poverty: Two separate applicant pools (eligible national community-based and faith-based organizations with local networks and local partnerships that include community-based organizations, education and training institutions, business, and labor organizations) will compete for grants to provide training and placement services to individuals seeking pathways out of poverty and into employment within the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors described in §171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of WIA. Targeted populations include low-income and under-skilled workers, unemployed youth and adults, high school dropouts or other underserved populations.
- 4. <u>State Sector Training Grants</u>: Competitive grants between State Workforce Boards (SWIBs) in partnership with their SWA, local WIBs and One-Stop Career Center Systems, or regional consortia of Boards to provide training and job placement activities aligned with a workforce sector strategy that will target energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors described in §171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of WIA.
- 5. Green Capacity Building Grants: Current Department of Labor (DOL) grantees will compete for grants to prepare targeted populations for employment in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors described in §171(e)(1)(B)(ii) of WIA. The awards will support organizations as they update existing training and job placement programs for the emerging green economy in order to facilitate the success of other projects under the Green Jobs Initiative.

NOTE: A portion of the funding under <u>Energy Training Partnership Grants</u> and <u>State Sector Training Grants</u> will be reserved to facilitate the transition of auto and auto-related workers to the green/energy efficient workforce. Grants will provide job training, counseling and placement services to residents from auto communities or incumbent and dislocated workers affected by significant restructuring related to the automotive sector.

It is anticipated that formal Solicitations of Grant Applications will be published in June 2009 with application closing dates starting in late summer.

Required: Please assure that all appropriate staff and local organizations are informed of the contents of this issuance.

Inquiries: Additional information is available on the ETA Recovery website:

http://www.doleta.gov/recovery/