

Mass Workforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 14-99

☐ 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 Operations Managers

cc: WIA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
Department of Career Services

Date: November 24, 2014

Subject: **Partnership on Employment & Accessible Technology (PEAT) Web Portal Launch**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners that the U.S. Department of Labor's [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#) has announced the launch of <http://www.PEATworks.org> - a comprehensive Web portal spearheaded by ODEP's Partnership on Employment & Accessible Technology.

Background: Given the critical role that accessible technology plays in the employment of people with disabilities, [ODEP is delighted to announce the launch of PEATworks.org](#), with its rich array of tools and resources.

From educational articles to interactive tools, the website's content aims to help employers and the technology industry adopt accessible technology as part of everyday business practice so that all workers can benefit.

PEATworks.org will be the central hub of PEAT, a multifaceted initiative to improve the employment, retention and career advancement of people with disabilities through the promotion of accessible technology. PEAT conducts outreach, facilitates collaboration and provides a mix of resources to serve as a catalyst for policy development and innovation related to accessible technology in the workplace.

Features of PEATworks.org include an action guide for employers and informational articles, and it will serve as a platform for collaboration and dialogue around accessible technology in the workplace. Also featured is "TechCheck", an interactive tool to help employers assess their technology accessibility practices and find resources to help develop them further.

PEAT is managed through an ODEP-funded grant to the [Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America](#).

Action

Required: Please share this information with staff, partners and employers, as appropriate.

Inquiries: Questions on this tool may be directed to Jason Albert at jalbert@detma.org. Please indicate Issuance number and description.