

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**100 DCS 25.120**

Policy  Information

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Board Chairs  
Workforce Board 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:** March 7, 2016

**Subject:** **Postsecondary Education Center for Individuals Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing - Funding Opportunity**

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**Purpose:** To notify Local Workforce Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of a funding opportunity through the Department of Education (DOE), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

**Background:** The purpose of this priority is to fund a cooperative agreement to establish and operate a Postsecondary education center for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Center will support postsecondary education through its work with institutions, State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), State vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies, VR service providers, and other relevant organizations and public agencies, to more effectively address the postsecondary, vocational, technical, continuing, and adult education needs of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, including those who have co-occurring disabilities, and those who are English learners.

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing have unique communication and language barriers that require a range of accommodations for success in postsecondary education and training settings.

**Grant Notice:** [ED-GRANTS-030416-001](#)  
**Eligible Applicants:** SEAs; LEAs, Institutions of Higher Ed; Public/  
Private Nonprofit Organizations  
**Application Deadline:** April 18, 2016  
**Number of Awards:** 1  
**Total Program Funding:** \$4,000,000  
**Award Ceiling:** \$4,000,000  
**Project Period:** Up to 36 months with an optional 24 months based  
on performance

**Action**

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