

Mass Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
Workforce Development Board Chairs
Workforce Development 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 20, 2017

Subject: **Rapid Response & Business Engagement National Summit Call for Workshops and Presenters**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce development partners that the Rapid Response & Business Engagement National Summit is seeking proposals for Workshops and Presenters at this year's Summit on August 31 - September 1, 2017.

Background: The Summits' purpose is to bring together partners who work with business customers, both locally and nationally, to increase awareness of the many economic and workforce development initiatives across the country. Under the scope of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a new emphasis has been placed upon business engagement and business services. This summit presents an opportunity to learn about innovative programs and methodologies from across the country meant to help businesses thrive, address the skills gap employers face and increase employment opportunities for job seekers.

Presentations submitted for review must be related to the themes of the Summit and should adhere to the following guidelines:

1. All presentations will be 60 minutes in length and allow adequate time for questions and answers from audience/participants.

2. Facilitators should be considered subject matter experts on material they present.
3. Workshop facilitators should encourage interactive delivery and creative thinking.
4. The workshop topic must be relevant to at least one of the five identified themes of the summit:
 - a. Partnering for Success: One Team with One Goal
 - b. Business Engagement: Innovation Driven by Vision
 - c. Rapid Response: Providing Opportunity Across the Business Cycle
 - d. The Power of Data: Telling your Business Engagement Story
 - e. Economic and Workforce Development: Teaming Up for Success
5. Format can be a guided panel discussion, lecture or interactive seminar.

All workshop proposals should be submitted by email to: Sandra Foley at Sandra.Foley@massmail.state.ma.us. The proposal deadline is Wednesday, March 29, 2017. For questions, please contact Sandra Foley by email or telephone at 978-534-1481 Ext. 237.

Action

Requested: Please share the information with managers, staff and partners as appropriate.