MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

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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: August 11, 2016

Subject: Sector Strategies Business Engagement Academy Virtual Events

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other

local workforce partners of the opening session for the US Department of Labor (USDOL) Employment and Training Administration's (ETA's) three-day Sector Strategies Virtual Business Engagement Academy. The event is scheduled for Monday, September 26th, 1:00 EST and is sponsored by WorkforceGPS. This session includes business leaders discussing workforce challenges in a mock industry meeting. Information from this session will be used for other core sessions as participants respond to what they hear from businesses.

Background: USDOL/ETA's Fall 3-Day Sector Strategies Business Engagement Academy is

a deep dive practicum into running an industry sector partnership with employers. The compressed session covers core aspects of serving as the partnership's intermediary - from the convening to validating data and developing workforce

solutions.

As states and regions develop industry sector partnerships where business and workforce systems work together to solve skill gap issues, there are few workshops that highlight how industry sector partnerships come together, how system partners are supposed to collaborate to serve business and how to create meaningful business-informed career pathways for individuals. This series of sessions accomplishes all of the above.

The **Sector Strategies Business Engagement Academy** will be led by workforce leaders in the field and can be attended online and for free.

It is recommended that participants attend as a regional team and follow through with all of the sessions. It is strongly encouraged that multiple team members, or at least the team lead, set aside six hours over three days to fully engage in this process group.

No more than two sessions per day have been scheduled to maximize the potential of fitting a number of these sessions into schedules.

In addition to the **Model Industry Sector Meeting with Business Leaders Opening Session** (Full Publication Title: ETA Sector Strategies Virtual Institute
Business Engagement Academy Opening Session: Model Industry Sector Meeting
with Business Leaders), register for the three Core Sessions and the Closing
Session taking place September 26 - 28, 2016, using the **links** below:

<u>Core Session 1: Planning the Talent Pipeline Response with Partners</u> – Debrief - Tuesday, September 27th, 11am-12:15pm EST

<u>Core Session 2: Industry Specific Approaches</u> - Tuesday, September 27th, 3pm-4pm EST

<u>Core Session 3: Blueprint for Talent Development</u> - Wednesday, September 28th, 11am-12pm EST

<u>Closing Session: The Future of Business Engagement and Sectors</u> - Wednesday, September 28th, 3pm-4pm EST

Action Requested:

Please share the information with staff and partners as appropriate. Due to limited space, if multiple participants from the same location are joining the event, please join at one location to allow for a larger number of participants to attend.