MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

MassWorkforce Issuance

Workforce Issuance No. 14-15

□ 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: February 25, 2014

Subject: Training to Work 2–Adult Reentry Funding Opportunity

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

and other local workforce investment partners of a new funding opportunity. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has posted a Solicitation for Grant Applications, <u>SGA/DFA PY-13-03</u> for

the Training to Work 2–Adult Reentry (T2W2) program.

Background: The Training to Work 2-Adult Reentry grant program (T2W2) provides the opportunity for organizations to develop and implement career pathway programs in demand sectors and occupations for men and women who are at least 18 years old and who are enrolled in work release programs (WRPs). For the purposes of this solicitation, WRP refers to:

- Residential reentry centers (RRC), formerly called halfway houses, that are operated under contract with the Bureau of Prisons (BOP);
- Monitored home confinement; and
- Work release centers (WRC), which are typically located in areas where RRCs do not exist and are created by intergovernmental agreements between BOP and state or local jails that allow participants to leave the jail to work or find employment for a specified period of time each day and return to jail as their residence.

The grant will provide approximately \$30 million to support programs that involve employers and industry associations in identifying the skills and credentials that participants need to enter into and along career pathways that meet employers' needs.

The grantee must develop and implement career pathways programs at two levels through:

- 1). a Career Pathways Collaborative (CPC) made up of employers or industry groups and organizations, which must include WRPs, that serve male and female returning citizens and are able to define career pathway(s) in demand sector(s) based on their participants' needs, employer needs, and the needs of the local community, and,
- 2). service delivery to individual participants that puts them in and on these defined career pathways. The CPC will manage and guide the program at both the strategic and operational levels to ensure that participants are moving into and along the defined career pathways.

The Department expects to fund approximately 15 grants of up to \$2 million each. Applications must be received no later than 4:00pm EST, **April 18th, 2014**.

Please refer to the full Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA), identified above, for complete information.