

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: December 1, 2017

Subject: **Division of Professional Licensure and Hurricane Impacted Individuals**

Purpose: To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of resources for assisting hurricane impacted individuals, who possess a professional license designation, to seek a reciprocal license that will be valid in Massachusetts.

Background: The Administration encourages evacuees impacted by hurricanes to access One-Stop Career Centers statewide to discuss unemployment insurance and employment needs. Career Center staff can assist individuals who acquired professional licenses in other states or Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands and seek a reciprocal license in Massachusetts. Career Centers can help connect an individual with the Massachusetts Division of Professional Licensure (DPL) <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-professional-licensure>

Career Center staff can reach out to the lead contact at DPL, Robert Fortes (see attached contact sheet of information on DPL and the various Boards of Registration) to assist one or a group of individuals with similar licensing requests. Career Center staff should review the pool of individuals impacted by hurricanes accessing services and the types of licensing that are most frequently identified across their client group. If more than 2 or 3 individual are interested in the same license, DPL may be able to help facilitate a process with the relevant Board of Registration on behalf of a larger group.

Career Center staff can also reach out directly to a Board of Registration on behalf of an individual to connect to the application process. Senior leadership at each Board of Registration was briefed by Robert Fortes at DPL on the priority to expedite requests for licensing from Puerto Rico evacuees and the role of Career Center staff in connecting individuals to application processes through DPL.

Each professional license and Board of Registration has its own process to compare MA licensing requirements to other states or territories, such as Puerto Rico.

Attachment: A. DPL Contact List