

**WASHINGTON STATE  
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD  
MEETING No. 139  
JUNE 25, 2009**

**WASHINGTON'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT STATE PLAN**

Program Year 2009 funds under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) will be available to the state on July 1, 2009, for services to low income youth (\$18,236,698), adults (\$16,872,727), and dislocated workers (\$21,181,897). To qualify for these and Wagner-Peyser Act funds (\$14,623,623), the Governor must submit an updated state plan to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) by June 30, 2009.

The Employment Security Department (ESD) and Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) are jointly responsible for developing the State Plan for WIA Title I-B and the Wagner-Peyser Act and recommending Governor approval.

On March 18, 2009, DOL issued a Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 14-08 instructing states to update their state plan and to prepare a new section of the plan describing both adjustments to current strategies and new activities related to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) implementation. The modified plan, including the new ARRA section, can be found at [http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Policy\\_Fed\\_WIA.asp](http://www.wtb.wa.gov/Policy_Fed_WIA.asp).

The main body of the plan was developed using DOL's plan format (Training and Employment Guidance Notices #14-04 and 13-06). The plan reflects information on two WIA Youth Program waivers that were previously submitted to DOL by ESD on April 15, 2009. The plan describes WIA operational policies, accountability measures, and program priorities and responds to questions such as:

- What are the state's strategies for implementing demand-driven employment and training services?
- What are the state's strategies for implementing integrated, seamless service delivery through One-Stop Career Centers?
- What planning tools are available to customers to help them make informed career choices and to assist them in selecting high quality training programs?
- What are the state's service strategies to offer WIA eligible youth, including youth most in need, opportunities to succeed in secondary and postsecondary education, and opportunities to qualify for high demand jobs?

The updated 2009-2010 State Plan for WIA Title I-B and Wagner-Peyser was written to be consistent with goals, objectives, and strategies in *High Skills, High Wages 2008-2018: Washington's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development*.

A summary of the plan, including the new ARRA section is included under this tab.

**Board Action Required:** Adoption of the Recommended Motion.

## **RECOMMENDED MOTION**

**WHEREAS**, The Governor designated the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board as the State Workforce Investment Board under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA); and

**WHEREAS**, The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board and the Employment Security Department are jointly responsible for developing the 2009-2010 State Plan for WIA Title I-B and the Wagner-Peyser Act; and

**WHEREAS**, The State Plan for WIA Title I-B and Wagner-Peyser Act is an important planning and operations guide for two key programs in our state's workforce development system; and

**WHEREAS**, The State Plan, as modified for the period from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010, describes both adjustments to current strategies and new activities related to Recovery Act implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, The State Plan for WIA Title I-B and Wagner-Peyser has identified program goals, objectives, and strategies that are consistent with the state's strategic plan for the workforce development system; and

**WHEREAS**, The State Plan for WIA Title I-B and the Wagner-Peyser Act was broadly distributed for public comment during the months of May and June 2009, and comments received during this public review process were considered in the development of the final draft plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board recommends to the Governor the approval of the 2009-2010 State Plan for WIA Title I-B and the Wagner-Peyser Act for submission to the U.S. Department of Labor.

## SUMMARY OF THE UPDATED 2009-2010 STATE WIA PLAN

**Chapter 1. State Vision** - Includes the vision and goals for our state's workforce development system described in *High Skills, High Wages 2008-2018*. Features the Governor's economic development goals published in "The Next Washington." Describes the membership makeup of the Workforce Board and its Interagency Committee (IC).

**Chapter 2. State Workforce Investment Priorities** - This short chapter highlights the eight "Strategic Opportunities for 2008 to 2012" in *High Skills, High Wages*.

**Chapter 3. State Governance Structure** - Includes a chart of the state agencies with their respective workforce development programs and funding levels. Describes the organization and structure of the Workforce Board and its role as the state Workforce Investment Board for purposes of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

**Chapter 4. Economic and Labor Market Analysis** - Charts of the current makeup of the state's economic base by industry and current and projected demographics of the available labor pool. Includes a job forecast and a demand forecast.

**Chapter 5. Overarching State Strategies** - Outlines the goals, objectives and strategies in *High Skills, High Wages 2008-2018*. Lists important industry clusters by region.

**Chapter 6. Major State Policies and Recommendations** - Sketches many of our state's WIA policies found online at <http://www.wa.gov/esd/policies/title1b.htm>.

**Chapter 7. Integration of One-Stop Service Delivery** - Describes how WorkSource supports human capital solutions for businesses and job seekers. Describes policies, models and strategies supporting WorkSource integration including the Employment Security Department's *WorkSource Initiative Framework*. The Framework was reviewed by the Board on January 22, 2009.

**Chapter 8. Administration and Oversight of Local Workforce Investment System** - Summarizes the history of the designation of our state's 12 workforce development areas. Describes the Governor's criteria for certifying Workforce Development Councils (WDC). Includes information on the state's guidelines for developing local area strategic plans and WIA Title I-B operations plans. Focuses on compliance with WIA regulations. Describes work on common measures, initial assessments and key services, and AmeriCorps pilots in WorkSource Centers.

**Chapter 9. Service Delivery** - Offers a comprehensive picture of key ESD initiatives including the Workforce Initiative Framework to promote a more integrated workforce development system to deliver employer and job seeker services; to redesign front-end functions to ensure all WorkSource customers receive a basic level of service; O'NET Autocoder, WorkFirst comprehensive assessments, accessibility assessments, Job Hunter, outreach to veterans, Governors Management Accountability Performance (GMAP) /key services and feeder measures, Unemployment Insurance (UI) initiatives, rapid response strategies, drop-out prevention and intervention projects.

**Chapter 10. State Administration** - Addresses state technology infrastructure/MIS and management tools. Describes the state's WIA performance accountability system.

**New section describing both adjustments to current strategies  
and new activities related to Recovery Act implementation**

DOL's March 18, 2009, Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 14-08 requests that the 2009-2010 State Plan for WIA Title I-B and Wagner-Peyser include responses to 25 questions related to Recovery Act implementation. In response, Washington state's modified plan:

- Describes how the WIA Recovery Act funds will invigorate the state's workforce system enabling future economic growth and advancing shared prosperity.
- Describes strategies for serving youth, 16 through 24 years of age, with WIA Recovery Act funds including summer youth employment opportunities.
- Includes actionable strategies the state is deploying to achieve the Governor's vision for the use of WIA Recovery Act and regular formula funds.
- Summarizes plans for cross-agency collaboration so that workforce investments are fully tied to other investments funded by the Recovery Act outside of workforce development.
- Details the planned collaboration between entities responsible for WIA, Wagner-Peyser, Unemployment Insurance, Trade Act services and Registered Apprenticeship.
- Confirms that for services to adults, priority will be given to public assistance recipients, low income adults, veterans and eligible spouses, and individuals with multiple barriers to employment including older individuals, limited English proficiency individuals, and people with disabilities.
- Informs on the Governor's directive that jobs generated through the Recovery Act be listed through WorkSource so that the job notices are accessible and available to all customers.
- Responds to DOL's question on how the state will increase training access and opportunities to individuals served through both regular WIA Title I-B funds and WIA Recovery Act funds.

Part of this response describes how state general funds (through E2SSB 5809) and Governor WIA Recovery Act funds will be used to match local Workforce Development Council expenditures for training in high demand occupations with preference given to occupations in energy efficiency, along with aerospace, health care, and forest products. The incentive funds will provide a match of:

- 75 cents for each dollar WDCs spend on contracts with a community or technical college to expand training capacity for high demand occupations.
- 25 cents for each dollar WDCs spend on Individual Training Account vouchers that assist individuals with tuition, fees, and related costs at a community or technical college, private career school, four-year college or university, or apprenticeship program.

Programs must be either a new program or a program on the State Eligible Training Provider List. ([www.Careerbridge.wa.gov](http://www.Careerbridge.wa.gov))

- Presents information on how the state will effectively use its Wagner-Peyser Recovery Act funds to support the hiring of sufficient levels of staff in the limited time period available for state WorkSource Centers to provide universal access and services required to meet the needs of increased numbers of customers in the economic downturn.