

<p><b>WIOA Task Force/Subcommittee</b> <i>(Fill in the name of your subcommittee or task force)</i></p>	<p><i>Technology and Access Task Force</i></p>
<p><b>Recommendation</b> <i>(State the recommendation you are asking the Steering Committee to consider and adopt)</i></p>	<p>The Technology and Access Task Force recommends:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The state Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board require, through planning guidance, that local workforce development councils outline in their local WIOA plan an implementation timeline and strategy for wireless Internet access at comprehensive one-stop centers.</li> <li>2. The state-level Access and Barrier Solutions Advisory Committee prioritize the creation of a grant program or similar effort to help local workforce development councils defray the cost of implementation of wireless Internet access at their comprehensive one-stop centers.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Background</b> <i>(Please provide the background information that was considered and the action leading to this recommendation and the problem or issue solved.)</i></p>	<p>There have been a number of previous attempts to solve print access issues at one-stop centers, including: putting screen-reading and enlargement software in center labs; CCTV equipment; making large print and Braille materials available upon request; and providing sign and other language interpretation. Keeping accessibility software and equipment current, staff knowledgeable on how to use that software, and the cost of interpreters are some of the challenges that lead to a non-sustainable solution to information access in one-stop centers. Further, there was no access policy consistency from center to center, so a consumer might get different levels of service and access depending on where they live.</p> <p>Wireless Internet accessibility has become nearly universal in 2015. One-stop centers should also provide wireless Internet usable by the public and accessible throughout the center, including public areas, intensive or program service areas, and conference and training rooms.</p> <p>Many one-stop centers are already striving to have most, if not all, materials in a digital and accessible format through Monster or other carriers. Digitizing content allows customers to bring their own technology (including technology with accessible software) to the One-Stop Center and access all the materials housed there using a familiar medium.</p> <p>Further, the customer could potentially access a PowerPoint presentation, workshop training materials, active calendars, and all other customer service options using their own computer, tablet, or smartphone equipment. Sign and language translation services including video relay could also be accessed throughout</p>

	<p>the center and again with the customer using the tools they are familiar with.</p> <p>Enhancing wireless Internet availability may assist in shrinking the footprint of one-stop centers, as computer labs will not need to be as robust, equipment costs and printing costs can be reduced, and a “greener” footprint for the center can be created.</p>
<p><b>Who was engaged in this process?</b> <i>(Please provide a list of subcommittee or task force members and who they represent)</i></p>	
<p><b>What, if any, is the minority recommendation?</b> <i>(If the committee could not reach consensus on a majority recommendation, what was the alternative under consideration?)</i></p>	
<p><b>Are there any unresolved issues?</b> <i>(Please let the Steering Committee know about any unresolved issues around this recommendation.)</i></p>	<p>Should the recommendation be explicit as to the degree of wireless availability local workforce development councils should plan for—or, what the task force sees as “universal” wireless? For instance, should wireless Internet only be available in high-traffic areas of the one-stop, or throughout the facility?</p> <p>Will requiring wireless Internet access at only comprehensive sites “move the needle?” Does the task force need to consider whether affiliate sites of a certain size would also benefit from wireless Internet availability?</p>