

newSource

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EDUCATION & SUPPORT

WorkSource Standards & Integration Division

Announcements & Updates

May 2012 – 1st Anniversary Edition!

This edition of NewSource marks the one year anniversary of its first publication! If you have ideas about future items that would be useful, please contact Nancy Paré (npare@esd.wa.gov) with your suggestions!

Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

The committee met for the first time on May 17th and had a very productive session. The agenda included prioritization of policy projects and discussion around the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) policy in preparation for upcoming revisions. The committee established a list of prioritized policy updates. The top five in order of priority are: MOU, Business Services/Job Orders, Integrated Customer Complaints, Branding, Incentives/Sanctions and National Emergency Grants. The PAC plans to convene again in June to wrap up the MOU revisions and to begin the discussion on how to streamline and consolidate the Business Services and Job Order policies.

Career Bridge

A new-and-improved Career Bridge website was unveiled on May 25th. Improvements include the ability to save your searches to a personal dashboard, a career interest quiz and easier access to program performance results. www.wtb.wa.gov/CareerBridge.asp

Fiscal Tip: Provide your board with financial dashboards that highlight key performance indicators and provide a single snapshot of your WDCs financial health.

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WorkSource Information Notice on Local Operations Plan Extension

WorkSource Information Notice (WIN) 0019 was issued earlier this month. It extended current WIA and Wagner-Peyser local operations plans until June 30, 2013. To that end, local areas will submit a single, three-part plan that encompasses both the strategic and operational elements as well as the assurances. The WIN link is http://www.wa.gov/esd/1stop/policies/state_guidance.htm.

DOLETA Region 6 Full Program Review

DOL/ETA Region 6 will be conducting a formal on-site federal monitoring visit in Washington this summer (a two-week period between July 9 and August 10, 2012) for WIA, Wagner-Peyser, TAA and NEG programs. Several WDCs will be visited. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

OIG Audit of OJT NEG

Contractors from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) were in Washington during the week of May 14 to audit the OJT NEG program. The auditors met with staff and reviewed program information that included participant files in WSID and in five of the seven participating WDAs (Pacific Mountain, Northwest, Southwest, North Central, South Central and Eastern). Additional information on the results of the audit will be distributed upon receipt from OIG.

Community Partnership NEG

The Community Partnership NEG was cleared by DOL/ETA Region 6 and submitted to the DOLETA National Office for a final review and funding decision. WSID is responding to comments and information requests from the National Office. We are currently hopeful that an affirmative decision will be rendered by the end of this month.

Self-Employment Training

On March 15, 2012, the state Legislature passed into law the SB 6289 which extends and expands the Self-employment Assistance Program (SEAP). In addition to the SEAP changes, the bill also requires the WDCs to:

- Notify all individuals eligible for services under the WIA of the availability of self-employment and entrepreneurial training;
- Collaborate with local providers to encourage them to get on the Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL) maintained by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board; and
- Implement a plan to expend WIA funds on self-employment training based upon either the demand for such training or the rate of self-employment in the local area.

WSID issued Policy 3705 on May 29. The policy is designed to guide the implementation of SB 6289 as it pertains to the use of WIA funds for self-employment training. On June 1st, WSID will hold a Webinar to introduce the WIA SET Policy and provide implementation guidance. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Kamimura at gkamimura@esd.wa.gov.