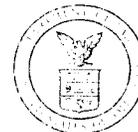


JUN 07 2011



The Honorable Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
Governor of Missouri  
State Capitol Building  
Room 216  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Governor Nixon:

This letter provides approval of an extension of Missouri's current Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Wagner-Peyser Act (W-P) State Plan for Program Year (PY) 2011. This letter also provides approval of extensions for Missouri's waivers, as described below. Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 17-10, issued on December 30, 2010, provides guidance for states to secure approval of their WIA/W-P State Plans and waivers for PY 2011.

#### Extension of State Plan

Missouri's existing State Plan will expire on June 30, 2011. This letter constitutes a written determination under WIA Section 112 (29 USC 2822) that the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is extending the approval of Missouri's State Plan for WIA Title I and the Wagner-Peyser Act for PY 2011, July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The State has already received its formula allotment for the WIA Youth program for PY 2011. The State is eligible to receive WIA formula allotments for Adult and Dislocated Worker programs and W-P initial base program allotments under the PY 2011 annual funding agreement for WIA and the PY 2011/Fiscal Year 2012 annual funding agreement for W-P.

#### Performance Levels

Missouri requested to extend its existing PY 2010 WIA and W-P performance goals for PY 2011. ETA has incorporated these performance goals, identified as PY 2011 performance goals, into the Regional and National Office copies of the State Plan. Please include these PY 2011 goals in the State's official copy of the State Plan. For your convenience, a copy of the PY 2011 performance goals is enclosed with this letter.

## Waivers

As part of the State's extension of the WIA/W-P State Plan, and as described in TEGL No. 17-10, the State requested extensions of Missouri's PY 2010 waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements under WIA for PY 2011. The disposition of the State's waiver extensions is outlined below. This action is taken under the Secretary's authority at WIA Section 189(i) to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, Subtitles B and E, and Sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act.

### Extension of Waivers

#### Waiver of WIA Section 133(b)(4) to increase the allowable transfer amount between Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams allocated to a local area.

The State was previously granted a waiver to permit an increase in the amount a state is allowed to transfer between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012. Under the waiver, transfer authority is limited to 50 percent. This limitation provides states flexibility while ensuring consistency with Congressional intent regarding the level of funding appropriated for the WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

#### Waiver of WIA Section 101(31)(B) to increase the employer reimbursement for on-the-job training.

The State was previously granted a waiver to permit an increase in employer reimbursement for on-the-job training through a sliding scale based on the size of the business. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012. Under the waiver, the following reimbursement amounts will be permitted: 1) up to 90 percent for employers with 50 or fewer employees, and 2) up to 75 percent for employers with 51-250 employees. For employers with more than 250 employees, the current statutory requirements (50 percent reimbursement) will continue to apply. When determining the funding source for on-the-job training, the State must use the appropriate program funds for the appropriate WIA-eligible population. The State and local areas may provide on-the-job training to individuals over age 18 with WIA Adult funds and must provide priority to low-income individuals when funds are limited; the State and local areas may provide on-the-job training to dislocated workers with WIA Dislocated Worker funds. On-the-job training provided with statewide funds must serve WIA eligible individuals.

Waiver of the prohibition at 20 CFR 664.510 on the use of Individual Training Accounts for older and out-of-school youth.

The State was previously granted a waiver of the prohibition at 20 CFR 664.510 on the use of Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) for older youth and out-of-school youth program participants. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012. Under this waiver, the State can use ITAs for older youth and out-of-school youth program participants. The State must continue to make the 10 youth program elements available as described at WIA Section 129(c)(2). The State should ensure that funds used for ITAs are tracked and that the ITAs are reflected in the individual service strategies for these youth.

Waiver to permit the State to replace the performance measures at WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures.

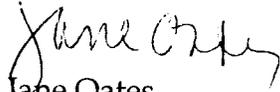
The State was previously granted a waiver that allows the State to replace the 17 performance measures under WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012.

This waiver permits the State to negotiate and report WIA outcomes against the common performance measures only, rather than the performance measures described at WIA Section 136(b). The State will no longer negotiate and report to ETA on the following WIA measures: WIA adult and dislocated worker credential rates; participant and employer customer satisfaction; older youth measures; and younger youth measures. The State will use the three adult common performance measures to negotiate goals and report outcomes for the WIA Adult and WIA Dislocated Worker programs. The State will use the three youth common performance measures to negotiate goals and report outcomes for the WIA Youth program. Workforce Investment Act Standardized Record Data system (WIASRD) item 619, Type of Recognized Credential, should be completed for each individual as appropriate, regardless of this waiver to report on common performance measure outcomes only.

The approved waivers are incorporated by reference into the State's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and this constitutes a modification of the State Plan. A copy of this letter should be filed with the State's WIA Grant Agreement and the approved State Plan. In addition, as described in TEGE No. 09-10, page 3, the State should address the impact these waivers have had on the State's performance in the WIA annual performance report, due on October 1 of each year.

We look forward to working together as you implement your State Plan for PY 2011. If you have any questions related to the issues discussed above, please contact Cheryl Svee, the Federal Project Officer for Missouri, at 312-596-5459 and Svee.Cheryl@dol.gov.

Sincerely,



Jane Oates  
Assistant Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Byron Zuidema, Regional Administrator, ETA Chicago Regional Office  
Cheryl Svee, Federal Project Officer for Missouri

# Workforce Investment Act and Wagner-Peyser Act Performance Goals for PY 2011

## Missouri

### Workforce Investment Act Performance Goals

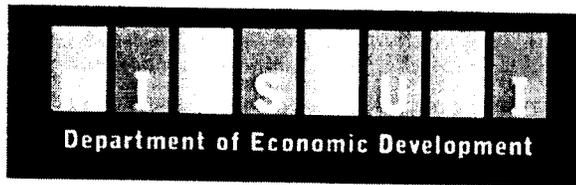
<u>Adult Measures</u>	<u>PY 2010</u>
Adult Entered Employment Rate	65%
Adult Employment Retention Rate	83%
Adult Six-months Average Earnings	\$11,000

<u>Dislocated Worker Measures</u>	<u>PY 2010</u>
Dislocated Worker Entered Employment Rate	65%
Dislocated Worker Employment Retention Rate	89%
Dislocated Worker Six-months Average Earnings	\$12,000

<u>Youth Measures</u>	<u>PY 2010</u>
Youth Placement in employment or education	62%
Youth Attainment of degree or certificate	43%
Youth Literacy and numeracy gains	35%

### Wagner-Peyser Act Performance Goals

<u>Measures</u>	<u>PY 2010</u>
Entered Employment Rate	65%
Employment Retention Rate	81%
Six-months Average Earnings	\$10,143



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
Governor

David Kerr  
Director

Division of Workforce Development

Julie Gibson  
Director

April 6, 2011

Ms. Kimberly Vitelli  
Division of Workforce System Support  
Employment and Training Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4231  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Ms. Vitelli:

On behalf of Governor Jay Nixon, I am formally requesting *The State of Missouri's Strategic Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)/Wagner Peyser Act, Program Year 2010*, be extended for Program Year (PY) 2011, July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Through this request, Missouri is asking for an extension of four currently approved waivers for PY 2011: 1) Waiver of WIA Section 101(31)(B) to increase the employer reimbursement for on-the job training; 2) Waiver of WIA Section 133(b)(4) to increase the allowable transfer amount between Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams allocated to a local area; 3) Waiver of the prohibition at 20 CFR 664.510 on the use of Individual Training Accounts for older and out-of-school youth; and 4) Waiver to permit the State to continue replacing the performance measures at WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures.

Missouri is also seeking to renegotiate new goals for some of Missouri's PY 2010 Planned Performance Measures. Until discussions regarding performance with DOI are held, the PY 2011 planned performance measures (copy enclosed) will be the same as PY 2010. The Division of Workforce Development (DWD) continues to evaluate the impact of Next Generation Career Centers on the state's performance. The DWD staff will be in contact with Region V's staff at a later date.

The Missouri Workforce Investment Board approved this extension at their March 18, 2011, Executive Committee meeting. A public notice has been posted for 30 days on the home page of WorkSmart, Missouri's publicly accessible state website for the workforce development system. The DWD sent an electronic memorandum advising the local workforce investment board leaders to contact their service providers and diverse groups of their opportunity to provide comment. The public comment period ends April 16, 2011, at which point DWD will notify you of the outcome.

421 E. Dunklin Street, P.O. Box 1087, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1087  
<http://workforce.mo.gov> Phone: (573) 751-3999 Fax: (573) 751-8162

**Real People. Real Opportunity.**