



AUG 5 2014

The Honorable Paul R. LePage
Governor of Maine
1 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0054

Dear Governor LePage:

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is pleased to respond to your request for waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, Subtitles B and E, and sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act. On July 22, 2014, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was enacted. Many of WIOA's provisions take effect on July 1, 2015, but the existing WIA state and local plan provisions remain in effect until July 1, 2016. ETA is conducting a review of WIOA's implementation timeline and provisions, and will be issuing guidance in the future regarding the new State Unified Plan provisions and waivers as part of its implementation actions. Current WIA waiver approval timelines have been adjusted in accordance with the expected end date (June 30, 2016) for the existing WIA State Plans; however, the waiver below is reviewed annually.

The State's recent WIA waiver requests are written in the format identified in WIA section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c), and meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). The following is the disposition of the State's waiver request (copy enclosed).

Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 20 CFR 665.200(e) to exempt a state from the requirement to provide local workforce investment area incentive grants.

The State is requesting an extension of a waiver of the requirement to provide local workforce investment areas incentive grants to reward regional cooperation, local coordination of activities, and exemplary performance. The State is granted an extension of this waiver effective through June 30, 2015.

The approved waiver is 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 required by TEGL No. 6-13, 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 continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce outcomes. If you have any questions related to the issues discussed above, please contact Carmen Rodriguez, the Federal Project Officer for Maine, at (617) 788-0110 or Rodriguez.Carmen@dol.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Portia Wu', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Portia Wu
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Holly O'Brien, Regional Administrator, ETA Boston Regional Office
Carmen Rodriguez, Federal Project Officer for Maine



STATE OF MAINE
 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
 55 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0055

Paul R. Lepage
 GOVERNOR

Jeanne S. Paquette
 COMMISSIONER

July 10, 2014

Heather Fleck, Federal Coordinator for Plan Review & Approval
 Division of Workforce System Support - ETA
 U.S. Department of Labor
 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-4209
 Washington, DC 20210

Dear Ms. Fleck:

Maine is requesting an extension of the PY13 approved waiver of WIA §134(a) (2) (B) (iii) & 20 CFR 665.200 (e) to exempt the state from the requirement to provide local workforce investment area incentive funds in PY14.

Although the Governor's Reserve funding has been increased to 8.5% totaling \$850,963, as laid out in the budget sheet below this amount just barely covers the cost of the work required to administer and oversee WIA formula programs, conduct reporting and other required activities, and implement the state plan, leaving no incentive funding to distribute to local areas.

Cost Categories	FTE	Annual	Note
Personal Services	3.70		
Bureau Director	0.30	\$30,456	
Deputy Director	0.15	\$16,892	
Division Director	0.90	\$98,161	
Financial Analyst	0.40	\$35,652	
Program Manager	0.90	\$80,998	
Mgt. Analyst II	0.60	\$47,421	
Clerk IV	0.35	\$18,224	
Misc. Staff	0.10	\$10,303	
STACAP		\$12,163	
Indirect		\$42,134	
Non-Personal Services			
Rent		\$14,900	
Allocated Costs		\$13,320	
OIT Costs			
Monthly Computer Charges		\$26,726	
Progress Software (OSOS)		\$7,485	
Progress Upgrade (OSOS)		\$23,313	
OSOS Maintenance		\$41,728	
Database /Storage		\$7,422	
Required Activities			
Customer Satisfaction Surveys		\$20,000	Two Rounds
Program Evaluation		\$50,000	
TA & System Staff Training		\$30,000	
Local Area LMI Info Project		\$80,000	Addresses compliance finding
SWIB Staff	3.0	\$30,000	Partial cost
State Plan Implementation		\$113,575	Industry Partnership, Agency Cross Training etc.
TOTAL		\$850,963	

Our goal in seeking this waiver is to ensure the State can prioritize the use of the WIA Governor's Reserve funds for the required statewide activities we deem most essential to the basic functions of the workforce investment system, while allowing progress on the Governor's statewide initiatives as identified in the recently 2012-2016 WIA Strategic Plan. We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ginny Carroll
Division Director

cc: Jeanne Paquette, Commissioner, MDOL
Richard Freund, Deputy Commissioner, MDOL
Pete Pare, Bureau Director, MDOL/BES
Holly O'Brien, Region One Administrator
Carmen Rodriguez, Federal Project Officer

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs.
Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.