



JUN 15 2012

The Honorable Chris Gregoire
Governor of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire:

This letter provides approval of an extension of Washington's current Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Wagner-Peyser Act (W-P) State Plan for a portion of Program Year (PY) 2012. This letter also provides approval of extensions for Washington's current waivers. Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 21-11, issued on March 27, 2012, provides guidance for states to secure approval of their WIA/W-P State Plans and waivers for PY 2012. In accordance with TEGL No. 21-11 and your extension request, the State must submit a full five-year WIA/W-P State Plan and annual W-P Agricultural Outreach Plan by September 15, 2012.

Extension of State Plan

Washington's existing State Plan will expire on June 30, 2012. This letter constitutes a written determination under WIA Section 112 (29 USC 2822) that the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is temporarily extending the approval of Washington's State Plan for WIA Title I and the Wagner-Peyser Act into PY 2012, for the period July 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. The State already received its formula allotment for the WIA Youth program for PY 2012. The State is eligible to receive WIA formula allotments for the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs under the PY 2012 Annual Funding Agreement. The W-P Annual Funding Agreement on PY 2012/Fiscal Year 2013 will provide the W-P Act initial base allocation of PY 2012 funds.

Performance Levels

Washington requested to temporarily extend its existing PY 2011 WIA and W-P performance goals for a portion of PY 2012. ETA has incorporated these performance goals, identified as PY 2012 performance goals, into the Regional and National Office copies of the State Plan. Please include these PY 2012 goals in the State's official copy of the State Plan. As required by TEGL 21-11, the state must renegotiate its new PY 2012 goals upon submission of its full State Plan.

Waivers

As part of the State's extension of the WIA/W-P Act State Plan, and as described in TEGP No. 21-11, the State requested temporary extensions of Washington's PY 2011 waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements under WIA for PY 2012. 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.

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 December 31, 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.

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 December 31, 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 of WIA Section 123 that requires that providers of Youth program elements be selected on a competitive basis.

The State was previously granted a waiver of the requirement for competitive procurement of service providers for three of the ten youth program elements: supportive services, follow-up services, and work experience. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through December 31, 2012. Under this waiver, the State is permitted to allow its One-Stop Career Centers or partner agencies to directly provide the above youth program elements. In utilizing this waiver, the State and local areas must still meet Office of Management and Budget requirements (codified in 29 CFR 95.40-95.48 and 97.36) and all state and local procurement laws and policies.

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 TEGL No. 29-11, the State should address the impact that 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 receiving your full State Plan for PY 2012 and working together as you implement your State workforce strategies. If you have any questions related to the issues discussed above, please contact Dana Durfee the Federal Project Officer for Washington, at 415-625-7938 or Durfee.Dana@dol.gov.

Sincerely,



Jane Oates
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Todd Yamamoto, Acting Regional Administrator, ETA San Francisco Regional Office
Dana Durfee, Federal Project Officer for Washington



STATE OF WASHINGTON
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

PO Box 9046 • Olympia WA 98507-9046

April 11, 2012

Assistant Secretary Jane Oates
Employment & Training Administration
United States Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Assistant Secretary Oates:

Per Training and Employment Guidance Letter 21-11, Washington respectfully requests a temporary extension of its existing, currently-approved PY 2011 Workforce Investment Act/Wagner-Peyser State Plan, negotiated performance targets, and three WIA waivers (waiver of competitive procurement requirements for the youth program, waiver of prohibition on youth ITAs, and waiver of WIA performance measures in lieu of federal common measures) until September 15, 2012.

As you may be aware, Washington's legislature has mandated a state level workforce investment strategic plan that extends beyond those programs funded by the Workforce Investment Act and US Department of Labor (Revised Code of Washington 28C.18.080). Washington's Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, which serves as the state's Workforce Investment Board, is charged with ensuring the alignment of and a common strategic vision for both federally and state funded workforce training programs. The state's workforce development strategic plan, *High Skills, High Wages*, is currently being updated with the goal of Board approval in fall 2012.

The opportunity to extend the state's WIA/Wagner-Peyser State Plan will allow the state to ensure strategic alignment of both plans and better coordination at the state and local levels of all programs designed to support citizens in obtaining family wage jobs. The time afforded by the extension will enable the state's WIA/Wagner-Peyser partners to influence the direction and objectives in the state's workforce development strategic plan and subsequently align the state's new Integrated Workforce Plan with *High Skills, High Wages* as well as gather more thorough and thoughtful stakeholder input and foster greater involvement of partners in all workforce investment programs operated within Washington.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please contact Anne Goranson, Assistant Commissioner, WorkSource Standards & Integration Division, at 360/725-9475 or agoranson@esd.wa.gov.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Trause".

Paul Trause
Commissioner

cc: Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director, Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board
Todd Yamamoto, Acting Regional Administrator, US DOL/ETA Region 6
Dana Durfee, Federal Program Officer, US DOL/ETA Region 6
Heather Fleck, Federal Coordinator, US DOL/ETA National Office