



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

State House, Room 224
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
401-222-2080

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

April 13, 2012

Division of WIA Adult Services and Workforce System
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-4209
Washington, DC 20210

Attention: Heather Fleck

Dear Ms. Fleck:

Rhode Island's Strategic State Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and the Wagner-Peyser Act will expire on June 30, 2012. In accordance with Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 21-11, Rhode Island respectfully requests that the U.S. Department of Labor temporarily extend the life of the existing Rhode Island WINWagner Peyser Act State Plan into Program Year 2012 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013), including all currently approved waivers (attached), pending waiver requests (attached) and negotiated performance goals. This temporary extension is needed to more effectively engage our workforce development partners in the state's planning process. We expect to submit our Strategic State Plan on September 10, 2012. This new plan will address the Agricultural Outreach and Senior Community Service Employment Program Plans. As both of these currently expire on June 30, 2012, we respectfully request that they also be temporarily extended.

It is imperative that we get the workforce development and training objectives for our state right if Rhode Islanders are to emerge from the current economic recession better equipped to perform in and compete for the types of jobs that will be created. As Governor this is a priority of mine, and I am committed to working with state leaders across all organizations to ensure our success. The extension of the planning effort will afford us the opportunity to collaborate with

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stakeholders and better identify a set of workforce priorities that strategically align partners and resources.

I very much look forward to building a strong relationship between my Administration and USDOL. Together we can leverage our capacities to help Rhode Islanders succeed and prosper. If you need additional information or have any questions specifically related to this request, please contact Charles J. Fogarty, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training and WIA Liaison at 401-462-8875 or Director-dlt@dlt.ri.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lincoln D. Chafee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "C".

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

enclosures

cc: Holly O'Brien
Charles J. Fogarty

Currently Approved Waivers- Requesting Extension of All

1. Waiver of the required 50 percent employer contribution for customized training at WIA section 101 (8) (C).
2. Waiver of the prohibition at 20 CFR 664.510 on the use of Individual Training Accounts for older and out of school youth
3. Waiver of Section 123 that requires that providers of youth program elements be selected on a competitive basis
4. Waiver of the provision at 20 CFR 663.530 that prescribes a time limit on the period of initial eligibility for training providers
5. Waiver of the State Workforce Board membership requirements at WIA Section 111 (b)
6. Waiver of the WIA Section 134(a)(1)(A) to permit a portion of the funds reserved for rapid response activities to be used for incumbent worker training.
7. Waiver of WIA Section 101(31)(B) to increase the employer reimbursement for on-the-job training
8. Waiver of 20CFR 666 and 667.300(a) to reduce the collection of participant data for incumbent workers
9. Waiver of the WIA requirements at 20 CFR 666.100 to exempt the state from including credential attainment outcomes for participants enrolled in on-the-job training in the credential performance measure calculations

Also Requesting Extension of Pending Waiver Requests, If Approved Prior to Extension Determination by USDOJ

1. Waiver of the WIA requirement at WIA Section 123(a)(2)(B)(ii) and 20 CFR 665.200(d) to conduct evaluations
2. Waiver of the WIA requirement at WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 20 CFR 665.200(e) to provide incentive grants to local areas