

JUN 07 2011



The Honorable Pat Quinn
Governor of Illinois
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

This letter provides approval of an extension of Illinois' 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 Illinois' 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

Illinois' 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 Illinois' 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

Illinois 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.

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 Illinois' 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 134(a) to permit local areas to use a portion of local funds for incumbent worker training:

The State was previously granted a waiver to permit local areas to conduct allowable statewide activities as defined under WIA Section 134(a)(3) with local WIA formula funding, specifically incumbent worker training. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012. Under this waiver, the State is permitted to allow local areas to use up to 10 percent of local Dislocated Worker funds and up to 10 percent of local Adult funds for incumbent worker training only as part of a lay-off aversion strategy. Use of Adult funds must be restricted to serving lower income adults under this waiver. ETA believes limiting incumbent worker training to the specified level and requiring it to be a part of layoff aversion is the best use of funds in the current economic climate where serving unemployed workers is a paramount responsibility of the workforce system. All training delivered under this waiver is restricted to skill attainment activities. Local areas must continue to conduct the required local employment and training activities at WIA Section 134(d), and the State is required to report performance outcomes for any individual served under this waiver in the Workforce Investment Act Standardized Record Data system (WIASRD), field 309. TEGL No. 26-09, Section 7A, "Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Waiver Policy and Waiver Decisions for PY 2009 and 2010" and TEGL No. 30-09, "Layoff Aversion Definition and the Appropriate Use of Incumbent Worker Training for Layoff Aversion Using a Waiver" provide policy guidance related to implementation of this waiver.

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.

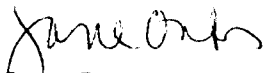
The State was previously granted a waiver that allows the State to replace the 17 performance measures under WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures. The State is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2012.

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. 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 TEGl 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 Julie Baker, the Federal Project Officer for Illinois, at 312-596-5420 and Baker.Julie.S@dol.gov.

Sincerely,



Jane Oates
Assistant Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Byron Zuidema, Regional Administrator, ETA Chicago Regional Office
Julie Baker, Federal Project Officer for Illinois

Workforce Investment Act and Wagner-Peyser Act

Performance Goals for PY 2011

Illinois

Workforce Investment Act Performance Goals

<u>Adult Measures</u>	<u>PY 2011</u>
Adult Entered Employment Rate	77.0%
Adult Employment Retention Rate	84.0%
Adult Six-months Average Earnings	\$11,300
<u>Dislocated Worker Measures</u>	<u>PY 2011</u>
Dislocated Worker Entered Employment Rate	85.0%
Dislocated Worker Employment Retention Rate	91.0%
Dislocated Worker Six-months Average Earnings	\$15,400
<u>Youth Measures</u>	<u>PY 2011</u>
Youth Placement in employment or education	56.0%
Youth Attainment of degree or certificate	45.0%
Youth Literacy and numeracy gains	33.0%

Wagner-Peyser Act Performance Goals

<u>Measures</u>	<u>PY 2011</u>
Entered Employment Rate	66.8%
Employment Retention Rate	82.8%
Six-months Average Earnings	\$14,150



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Pat Quinn, Governor • Warren Ribley, Director

April 15, 2011

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

Ms. Vitelli,

As instructed in Training and Employment Guidance Letter 17-10, the State of Illinois hereby requests a one year extension of the current State Strategic Plan for Title I of Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act, through Program Year 2011. We also would like existing waivers to be extended for one-year, with one exception, the waiver related to procurement of youth providers.

Waivers to extend:

1. Incumbent Worker Training
2. Common Performance Measures
3. ITAs for Out of School Youth

Waivers to terminate:

1. Youth Provider Procurement Requirement

If you have any questions, you may contact Mr. Michael Baker, manager of the Planning Unit in the Office of Employment and Training at michael.baker@illinois.gov or 217-558-6423.

Sincerely,

Warren Ribley
Director

cc: Byron Zuidema – DOL Region V Administrator

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