

SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 10, 2015 CONFERENCE CALL
AND REVIEW SHEET COMMENTS

DRAFT POLICY 5.2.2.1 –TRAINING PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY AND PROGRAM CERTIFICATION

The following summarizes comments and question discussed during the June 10, 2015 conference call regarding the draft DCEO policy for Training Provider Eligibility and Program Eligibility. This summary does not constitute DCEO policy. Formal policy is forthcoming. Comments and questions related to initial eligibility standards and procedures, performance and other topics continue to be under consideration and will be addressed as decisions are made.

1. MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

- a. A provider that is an institution of higher education and provides a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential must be able to provide evidence of certification or accreditation (e.g., the Illinois Board of Higher Education or the Illinois Secretary of State). Additional definition of the postsecondary credential is under consideration by Illinois' core program partners.

2. TRANSITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

- a. Training providers who are eligible providers of training services under WIA Section 122 will be grandfathered into WIOA transitional eligibility through December 31, 2015.
 - i. Provider eligibility will be automatically extended through December 31, 2015 in the Illinois Workforce Development System (IWDS).
 - ii. Program eligibility renewal will default to December 31, 2015. Local areas will have discretion to renew program eligibility during the transition period. Instruction for eligibility renewal will be provided in Policy 5.2.2.1 – Training Provider Eligibility, Training Program Eligibility.
- b. New training providers seeking eligibility under WIOA will not be able to apply for initial eligibility until Policy 5.2.2.1 – Training Provider Eligibility, Training Program Eligibility is issued. This policy will provide application procedures for the initial eligibility determination and state performance information required for initial eligibility approval.
- c. New providers with initial WIOA eligibility will have one fiscal year to provide required performance data. DCEO's Office of Employment and Training (OET) anticipates additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

3. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES

- a. Local Workforce Development Boards are responsible for determining provider eligibility.
- b. WIOA requires a description of the following information about service providers seeking initial eligibility:

- i. The provider's capacity to provide verifiable performance information to meet WIOA performance indicators,
- ii. The provider's partnership with business,
- iii. How the program provides high-quality training services, including whether the program leads to a recognized postsecondary credential, and
- iv. How the program is aligned with in-demand industry sectors and occupations.

Case notes and/or data fields will be established in IWDS to collect these descriptions.

Additional guidance will be provided to aid Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs) in assessing provider performance. Where applicable, the description may state that the provider does not have existing partnerships with businesses because of the nature of their programs.

- c. Language in the final policy will reflect that a syllabus or course catalogue will be acceptable to support the determination of *program* eligibility.

4. DEMAND OCCUPATION LIST

- a. OET will make available an updated Demand Occupation List by October 1, 2015.