February 27, 2019

Dear Workforce Development Board Directors:

This letter serves as notification of your local area’s levels of performance for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I programs for Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, and Title III Wagner-Peyser (W-P) Act funded activities for Program Year (PY) 2017 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018) and PY 2018 Quarter 1 (July 1, 2018 - September 30, 2018).

As outlined in Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 09-17: Negotiating Performance Goals for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Programs and the Wagner-Peyser Employment Service as amended by Title III, for Program Year (PY) 2017 and PY 2018, certain measures have been determined “baseline” for PY 2017 and PY 2018, due to insufficient historical data available to make reasonable determinations of expected levels of performance or to construct a statistical model for those measures. Therefore, PY 2017 and PY 2018 will be used to establish data on these measures for consideration in future performance negotiations. Baseline indicators include:

- Title I: Measurable Skill Gains, Effectiveness in Serving Employers, Youth Median Earnings, and
- Title III: Effectiveness in Serving Employers (note: Credential Attainment Rate and Measurable Skill Gains are not required indicators for this program).

As noted on the performance reports, reporting systems at the state and federal level are still under revision. As such, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) may issue revised reports at a later date. We are still in the midst of the WIOA transition period, which directly affects the accuracy and completeness of PY 2017 and PY 2018 outcome data. We are working diligently to bring America’s One Stop Operating System (AOSOS) into technical compliance with WIOA and the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) continues to revise their reporting mechanisms on a regular basis which affects data integrity. Software errors are reported to our case management vendor and USDOL as needed for corrective action. These activities will continue into the foreseeable future. This is precisely the reason why USDOL has chosen to exercise its transitional authority and not sanction states for failure to meet established performance targets. TEGL WIOA NO. 9-17 in the section titled
Determination of financial sanctions based on performance will occur only after two years of complete data are available for inclusion in the statistical adjustment model and after the model has been utilized to set targets for two full program years. Further information on performance assessment and the sanctions process will be issued in forthcoming guidance.

The Departments will continue to exercise their transition authority to provide that sanctions will occur only after two years of complete WIOA data are available. During this time of transition, the Departments will still provide technical assistance to States and develop performance improvement plans with States, if necessary.

Upon the submission of the WIOA PY 2017 Annual Report, all states had only one year of data for Employment Rate (Second Quarter After Exit) and Median Earnings and six months of data for Employment Rate (Fourth Quarter After Exit) and Credential Attainment. Two years of complete WIOA data for all performance indicators will not be available until the conclusion of PY 2019. LWD anticipates delivering PY 2018 Quarter 2 reports in the second week of March 2019.

On behalf of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development thank you for partnering with us to serve the citizens of New Jersey. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 609-292-2643 or by email at Lesley.Hirsch@dol.nj.gov. You may also contact David Ramsay at 609-292-0021 or by email at David.Ramsay@dol.nj.gov.

Sincerely,

Lesley Hirsch, Assistant Commissioner
Office of Research and Information

C: Robert Asaro-Angelo, Commissioner
    Paul Yuen, Deputy Commissioner
    Julie Diaz, Chief of Staff
    Hugh Bailey, Assistant Commissioner
    David Ramsay, Office of Research and Information
    Gary Altman, SETC
    Sheryl Hutchison, SETC