

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 09/03/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Application to the State Employment Development Department for Disability Program Navigator (DPN)

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Approve the submission of the Disability Program Navigator grant application.

DISCUSSION: The Social Security Administration and the Department of Labor jointly established the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) position. DPNs are located in the One-Stop Career Centers. The goals of the DPN Program include: Facilitation of integrated, seamless and comprehensive services to persons with disabilities in One-Stop Career Centers; improving access to programs and services; facilitating linkages to the employer community and developing demand responsive strategies to meet recruitment and retention needs; increasing employment and self-sufficiency for Social Security disability beneficiaries and other people with disabilities.

Navigators train One-Stop staff to help individuals with disabilities access and navigate the programs and services needed to maintain and gain employment. Navigators conduct outreach to organizations that serve people with disabilities. Navigators are not case managers, rather the position focuses on expanding the capacity of the One-Stop Career Center to serve customers with disabilities.

The total grant amount applied for is \$615,512. The grant would provide for two navigator positions, partial funding for a supervisor, some travel expense for mandatory State meetings and other functions, supplies, administrative and overhead costs.

The grant submission timeline was very short (due by close of business 8/21/09). The grant has been submitted, but further action will not be instituted until WIB approval for the pursuit of this grant is obtained.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Application available at meeting.