

TO: Executive Committee

DATE: 10/05/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Occupations in Demand

PROPOSED MOTION(S): That the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) approves the new Occupations In Demand policy using the three criteria listed below to determine demand occupations.

DISCUSSION: The Law—WIA 134(d)(4)(A)(iii) Linkage to occupations in demand training services provided under this paragraph shall be directly linked to occupations that are in demand in the local area, or in another area to which an adult or dislocated worker receiving such services is willing to relocate, except that a local board may approve training services for occupations determined by the local board to be in sectors of the economy that have a high potential for sustained demand or growth in local areas.

On August 12, 2009, the Quality Employment and Development Committee (QUED) met and determined it would be beneficial for the WIB to consider a more flexible Occupations in Demand Policy than the current policy. The current WIB policy uses a limited amount of information that may be out of date with the current labor market and fluctuating economic environment. The Department of Workforce Investment needs to be able to respond appropriately and swiftly to the fast changing job market.

The QUED has proposed that a new policy be developed using the following three criteria to determine demand occupations:

- 1. The five demand industry clusters the WIB has approved in the past**
- 2. Current job listings from various electronic job postings**
- 3. Specific employer requests**

At the September 3, 2009 WIB meeting, the WIB approved the development of the attached policy.

**ATTACHMENT(S):
New Occupations in Demand Policy**

Occupations in Demand

Policy: The Law—WIA 134(d)(4)(A)(iii) Linkage to occupations in demand training services provided under this paragraph shall be directly linked to occupations that are in demand in the local area, or in another area to which an adult or dislocated worker receiving such services is willing to relocate, except that a local board may approve training services for occupations determined by the local board to be in sectors of the economy that have a high potential for sustained demand or growth in local areas.

In order to determine which occupations have high potential for sustained demand or growth in local areas, one or more of the following criteria must be used.

1. Belong to one of the five WIB approved demand industry clusters
 - a. Agribusiness, including Food Processing, Agricultural Technology, and Biotechnology
 - b. Manufacturing
 - c. Supply Chain Management and Logistics
 - d. Health and Medical Care
 - e. Renewable Energy
2. Located on current job listings from various electronic job postings
3. Specific employer requests

The Department of Workforce Investment may, from time-to-time, designate additional occupations that do not meet the above criteria but looks promising for high potential for sustained demand or growth in the local labor market.

Responsible Official: Special Projects Manager

Reviewed Date: October 5, 2009

Revised Date: October 5, 2009