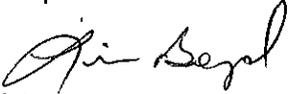


ISSUE DATE: August 30, 2012
DISPOSAL DATE: July 30, 2013

To: Workforce Development Board Directors, W3 Service Providers and Job Service Directors in Southeast Wisconsin, Milwaukee County and Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Areas

From: Lisa Boyd 
Division Administrator

Re: On-the-Job Training Co-Enrollment in Wisconsin Workers Win (W3) Pilot Program

On March 12, 2012 Governor Walker signed into law 2011 Act 123, known as Wisconsin Workers Win (W3). The program allows individuals receiving unemployment compensation benefits to receive training and demonstrate their skills to potential employers.

This memo is to provide direction for co-enrolling eligible W3 program participants with Workforce Investment Act (WIA) On-the-Job-Training (OJT) employment programs. Some W3 participants will need extra time accumulating the job skills required for the position in which they are receiving training. Coordination with OJT and other employment programs is a key strategy for fulfilling employer demand for workers, and should be utilized for connecting W3 participants with employers to the full extent each program allows. W3 is currently operational in three Wisconsin workforce development areas including Southeast Wisconsin, Milwaukee County and Southwest Wisconsin. WDBs in the regions where W3 is offered are strongly encouraged to connect with the W3 vendors to encourage employer participation in these training programs with the use of On-the-Job Training Opportunities. The W3 pilot program will run through May 31, 2013.

Co-enrollment Strategies

- W3 participants that are in need of additional services may be referred to WIA Title 1 or other job center partner programs during or following W3 activities.
- W3 graduates hired by a training worksite may be enrolled as appropriate in WIA On-the-Job-Training (OJT) after the W3 training period ends. It is recommended that the allowed OJT weeks be reduced by the number of hours the trainee has already received training. Support services delivered under WIA should be tapped to maximize successful employment outcomes.
- If W3 eligible participants are not matched with an employer willing to participate in the W3 program, or if the participant might be better served in a longer training period, OJT should be considered as another option for matching qualified job seekers with the job openings available.
- Participants in WIA Title 1 or TAA approved training are not eligible to participate in W3 since they are waived from job search requirements and not available for work.

W3 Program providers:

Southeast Wisconsin

Racine County Human Services
1717 Taylor Ave, Racine, WI 53403-2497
262-638-6620

Milwaukee Region

UMOS, Inc
2701 S. Chase Street, Milwaukee, WI 53707-1482
414-389-6000

Southwest Wisconsin

Community Action Inc
200 W. Milwaukee Street, Janesville, WI 53548
608-755-2470

Key aspects of the W3 program:

- W3 pilot is operational from June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2013.
- Up to 500 individuals are expected to participate in the program during the initial year.
- Eligible participants must be within the first 20 weeks of their initial receipt of UI benefits.
- Participation is voluntary; notification about the program will be made to eligible participants by the Department of Workforce Development's (DWD) Unemployment Insurance Division, through RES sessions at the local Job Centers and outreach provided by W3 vendors.
- Training is limited to part-time (20-24 hours per week) for not more than 6 weeks.
- Participants must continue to conduct work search during their training period.
- Employers must have a full-time job opening available during training.
- Employers must submit a Declaration of Insurance to cover Workers Compensation liability.
- Worksites cannot be engaged in current or upcoming layoff activity, or if there have been layoffs in the last 12 months, the W3 training position may not be one that was affected by the layoff.
- Participants are tracked in ASSET as Title 3 (Wagner-Peyser) special project participants.

Additional information about the program, including FAQs, is on DWD's website

<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/wiworkerswin/default.htm>