



# THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

EMPLOYMENT AND  
TRAINING  
ADMINISTRATION

Maryland Grants Conference 2014

# Background

- President Barack Obama signed WIOA into law on July 22, 2014.
- Passed by Congress with wide bipartisan majority (the Senate voted 93-5 and the House of Representatives voted 415-6).
- Broad vision of workforce programs: reaffirms ongoing role of American Job Centers and also requires coordination and alignment of key employment, education, and training programs.



# Background

- Promotes program alignment at the Federal, State, local, and regional levels.
- Builds on proven practices such as sector strategies, career pathways, regional economic approaches, work-based training.
- Complements and supports the President's Job-Driven Workforce Vision and the Vice President's Job-Driven Training Report released on July 22, 2014.

[www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/.../skills\\_report.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/.../skills_report.pdf)



# What the Act Does....

- Aligns Federal investments to support job seekers
- Strengthens governing bodies
- Helps employers find workers with necessary skills
- Aligns goals and increases accountability
- Fosters regional collaboration
- Targets workforce services to better serve job seekers



# Highlights of WIOA

- Requires states to align programs
  - ▣ Four year strategy
  - ▣ Single unified plan
- Promotes accountability
  - ▣ Evidence based, data driven and accountable to participants
  - ▣ Core performance indicators
  - ▣ Measure the effectiveness of employer services



# WIOA: Creating a comprehensive, accessible and high-quality workforce development system

## Aligned Workforce System

US  
Department  
of Labor  
Programs

US  
Department  
of  
Education  
Programs

US  
Department  
of Health  
and Human  
Services  
Programs

US  
Department  
of  
Agriculture  
Programs

Veteran's  
Programs

US  
Department  
of  
Commerce



# Highlights of WIOA

- Improves the American Job Center System
  - Must be certified every three years
  - Employment Services (Wagner-Peyser) co-location
  - TANF is a required partner
  - States are encouraged to integrate data systems, case management and intake
  - Funding dedicated to infrastructure



# Highlights of WIOA

- Provides Access to High Quality Training
  - ▣ Emphasis on training that leads to industry recognized credentials
  - ▣ Addition of additional procurement vehicles for training





# Highlights of WIOA

- Makes key investments in serving disconnected youth and other vulnerable populations
  - 75% of funds must be spent on OSY
  - 20% of funds must be spent on work experience
  - Removed income barrier for most OSY
  - Raises OSY age to 24



# Highlights of WIOA

- Enhances Job Corps
- Reinforces connections with apprenticeship
- Improves services to individuals with disabilities



# WIOA Timeline

- January 18, 2015: DOL, ED and HHS must publish Notice of Proposed Rule Making
- July 1, 2015: All provisions take effect
- January 22, 2016: DOL, ED and HHS must publish final rule



# Funding Opportunities

## □ HUD Jobs Plus Pilot Program

- \$24 million competition
- Application submission deadline: December 17, 2014
- <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=2014jppnofa.pdf>
- Workforce/Job-Driven language from the HUD NOFA:
- “These grants will employ several principles of the President’s **Job Driven training checklist** to ensure that public housing residents are connected to a program that is using evidence-based practices that work for job seekers and employers.



# Funding Opportunities

- **FTA Innovative Public Transportation Workforce Development Program (Ladders of Opportunity Initiative)**
  - \$9 million competition
  - Application submission deadline: December 23, 2014
  - <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/10/24/2014-25310/innovative-public-transportation-workforce-development-program-ladders-of-opportunity-initiative>



# More Information

- [www.doleta.gov/WIOA](http://www.doleta.gov/WIOA)
- Email DOL.WIOA@dol.gov

