



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity

OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

JB Pritzker, Governor

WIOA NOTICE NO. 19-NOT-08

TO: Chief Elected Officials
Local Workforce Innovation Board Chairpersons
Local Workforce Innovation Board Staff
WIOA Fiscal Agents and Grant Recipients
WIOA Program Services Administrators
Illinois workNet® Operators
WIOA State Agency Partners
Other Interested Persons

SUBJECT: Temporary Suspension of On-Site Review Requirement for One-Stop Certification for 2020

DATE: June 11, 2020

I. PURPOSE

To transmit guidance regarding the one-stop certification procedures to be followed during the pandemic.

II. ISSUANCES AFFECTED

A. References:

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, Section 121(g)
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; Final Rule, 20 CFR 678.800
Implementation of The Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity Provisions of the
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, 29 CFR Part 38
USDOL Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 16-16, One-Stop Operations
Guidance for the American Job Center Network (January 18, 2017)
USDOL Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 04-15, Vision for the One-Stop
Delivery System under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
(August 13, 2015)

B. Rescissions:

None

III. BACKGROUND

On May 5, 2020, Governor Pritzker released “Restore Illinois – A Public Health Approach to Safely Reopen Our State.” This five-phased plan provides the framework for reopening our state, guided by health metrics and marked by distinct business, education, and recreation activities characterizing each phase. The Restore Illinois plan recognizes that the economy will start growing again when consumers feel that it is safe to return to work, shop, and dine out, and engage in social and recreational activities.

Illinois is currently in Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan as directed in Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2020-38 issued on May 29, 2020. The Executive Order intends to safely and conscientiously resume activities paused by COVID-19. Under the Restore Illinois framework, in Phase 3, specified businesses and operations have reopened under the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) approved safety guidelines.

Recently, Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) and required partners received safety guidelines to provide on-site workforce services through American Job Centers. The guidance issued by Illinois’ Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Interagency Team is consistent with the Governor’s Restore Illinois plan to support local decision making about the safety, security, and clear expectations as centers prepare to reopen to the public.

WIOA and state policy on one-stop certification require that LWIBs evaluate and certify designated centers no less than once every three years. State policy 1.8 One-Stop Certification, developed by the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB) in consultation with chief elected officials and LWIBs, describes the requirements for assessing and certifying one-stop centers in Illinois. The procedures require LWIB designated local certification teams to conduct a desk review and on-site observation to determine the effectiveness, physical and programmatic accessibility, and continuous improvement of one-stop centers.

Due to continued social distancing requirements, the IWIB is granting flexibility to LWIB established certification teams in conducting one-stop center certification efforts.

IV. COMPONENTS

Although the Executive Order and supporting guidelines issued by the Illinois Governor, require or encourage staying at home or social distancing in Illinois, Local Workforce Innovation Boards (LWIBs) must submit the one-stop center certification application for each designated center, via desk review. However, the submission deadline to the IWIB of July 1, 2020, remains. Within sixty (60) days after the last local designated one-stop center reopens, the local certification team must conduct the on-site observation and provide the LWIB approved final certification to the IWIB through the Office of Employment and Training, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Certification teams must still adhere to social distancing guidelines laid out in the Governor’s Restore Illinois plan.

V. ACTION REQUIRED

All LWIBs and Local Workforce Innovation Areas recipients and subrecipients shall review this notice and distribute it to all appropriate individuals within the organization.

VI. INQUIRIES

Inquiries related to submission of the Intent to Apply or One-Stop Certification Application should be directed to OET, Mark Burgess at mark.a.burgess@illinois.gov. Inquiries related to the policy should be directed to OET, Lora S. Dhom at lora.dhom@illinois.gov.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE

This notice is effective on release.

VIII. EXPIRATION DATE

This notice will remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Office of Employment and Training.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julio Rodriguez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julio Rodriguez, Deputy Director
Office of Employment and Training

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