

<b>U. S. Department of Labor</b> Employment and Training Administration Washington, D.C. 20210	<b>CLASSIFICATION</b> Youth
	<b>CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL</b> OYS
	<b>DATE</b> September 17, 2001

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 1-01

**TO:** ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS  
 ALL STATE WORKER ADJUSTMENT LIAISONS  
 ALL STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AGENCIES  
 ALL ONE STOP CENTER SYSTEM LEADS

/S/

**FROM:** EMILY STOVER DeROCCO  
 Assistant Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Enhancing Youth Connections and Access to the One-Stop Delivery System

**1. Purpose.** To announce grant awards to 15 local Workforce Investment Boards (Local Boards) and Youth Councils to develop a strategic plan and conduct activities that support youth connections and linkages to One-Stop systems.

**2. References.**

- a. Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, (Pub. Law 105-220, 29 USC 2801 et seq.); <http://www.usworkforce.org/asp/act.asp>
- b. Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 16-00, March 19, 2001, Availability of Funds to Support Planning Projects that Enhance Youth Connections and Access to the One-Stop System; <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives>

**3. Background.** The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 places new emphasis on serving youth within comprehensive State and local workforce investment systems. The One-Stop delivery system is an important component of providing the comprehensive array of services that youth need to successfully transition to careers and lifelong learning. The WIA requires all local areas to establish at least one comprehensive One-Stop center, specifies a wide range of required partners, and specifies the types of services that must be available.

<b>RESCISSIONS</b> None	<b>EXPIRATION DATE</b> Continuing
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Youth programs funded under Title I, Chapter 4 of the WIA are required partners in One-Stop systems. As provided in 20 CFR 662.230 (the WIA final regulations), as a One-Stop partner, the WIA youth program is required to: a) make applicable core services available to participants; b) use a portion of its funds to create and maintain the One-Stop delivery system and provide core services; c) enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Local Board relating to the operation of the One-Stop System; d) participate in the operation of the One-Stop system; and e) provide representation on the Local Board.

The WIA also specifies a wide range of goals and requires comprehensive services to meet the multiple needs of youth. Local Boards and Youth Councils need to bring together training providers, schools, community organizations and other partners to strategically align and leverage resources to provide the ten program elements required under the WIA. These changes under the WIA make it imperative that youth programs develop and enhance linkages with One-Stop systems. Many of the One-Stop systems developed prior to the WIA did not reach out to youth, pursue youth program partnerships, or provide youth services because the required core partners primarily focused on adult customers. However, with the requirements under the WIA, One-Stop systems will now be looking for ways to better incorporate youth programs, develop a broader array of youth services, and reach out to a wider range of youth program partners than was typical in the past.

**4. Planning Grant Awards.** The Department recently awarded planning grants to 15 Local Boards and Youth Councils to encourage innovative strategies to enhance youth connections and access to One-Stop systems. No press release was issued for these awards, although there is considerable interest by local applicants in these awards. The Department received many proposals that could not be funded with the limited resources available. States may wish to consider supporting additional local efforts to enhance youth connections to One-Stop systems, including offering their own competition for a similar project.

The Local Boards and Youth Councils are using these planning grants to develop a strategic plan and conduct activities that support youth connections and linkages to One-Stop systems. These strategic plans address the following areas: marketing and outreach strategies to recruit youth to use One-Stop systems; referral and communication systems to link youth programs to One-Stop centers; strategies and technology to enhance One-Stop connections with schools and other satellite locations; operations and staffing to support youth; enhancing One-Stop center facilities and self-help services to tailor them to youth; and creating employer and provider linkages among local youth-serving agencies and other agencies with the One-Stop system. A summary of the 15 grant projects is presented in Attachment A.

**5. Next Steps.** The Department will conduct periodic conference calls and facilitate forums for grantees to meet and exchange lessons learned and promising practices for enhancing youth connections to One-Stop systems. The Department also plans to compile strategies from the

grantee strategic plans into a technical assistance guidebook that will be widely disseminated throughout the workforce investment system.

6. **Action Required.** States are requested to disseminate this information to local areas as well as interested and potential stakeholders.

7. **Inquiries.** Questions on this TEIN should be directed to your Regional Office.

8. **Attachment.** Enhancing Youth Connections and Access to the One-Stop System (Demonstration Grants)