

## Workforce Investment Act Waiver Request

**Waiver from the requirement to conduct evaluations (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(ii) and 20 CFR 665.200(d)).**

**Date: 11/8/2011**

**State: New York State**

**Agency: New York State Department of Labor**

Statutory and/or regulatory requirements to be waived

Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(ii) and 20 CFR 665.200(d) requiring the conduct of evaluations of workforce investment activities for adults, dislocated workers, and youth.

Actions undertaken to remove state or local barriers

There are no state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver.

Goals and expected programmatic outcomes of waiver

The reduction to five percent in the WIA allotment for Program Year 2011 Governor's Reserve funds restricts the state's ability to effectively fund and carry out all of the required statewide workforce investment activities. The current funding level in the Governor's Reserve is insufficient to cover the cost of evaluations. The state's reduced funds are being used to cover the following required activities:

- operating fiscal and management accountability information systems (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(vi) and 20 C.F.R. 665.200(b)(1));
- submitting required reports (WIA Section 136(f));
- disseminating the list of eligible training providers for adults and dislocated workers (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(i) and 20 C.F.R. 665.200 (b)(1)), and youth activities (20 C.F.R. 665.200(b)(4)), and;
- providing technical assistance to poor performing local areas (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iv) and 20 C.F.R 665.200(f)).

Our goal in seeking this waiver is to ensure that the state may prioritize the use of Governor's Reserve funds for the required activities we deem most essential to the basic functions of the workforce investment system.

### Individuals impacted by the waiver

This waiver will provide the state agency with more flexibility in directing Governor's Reserve funds to those activities that best preserve basic functions of the statewide workforce investment system.

### Process for monitoring progress in implementation

New York State will monitor progress and ensure accountability for Federal funds in connection with these waivers by reviewing monthly expenditure, performance and other reports, through regular contact with the ETA Regional Office liaisons, and through its monitoring and performance accountability system. All other monitoring and feedback will continue as described above.

### Notice to affected local boards

Should the waiver be granted, the Department will issue a Technical Advisory (TA) that will be disseminated to Chairpersons of Local Workforce Investment Boards, Chief Elected Officials, WIA Grant Recipients, WIA Fiscal Agents and WIA Local Area Contact Persons. The TA will also be posted on the New York State Department of Labor's web-site at: <http://www.labor.state.ny.us/workforcenypartners/tas.shtm>.

### Public Comment

Notice of the waiver request was posted on the New York State Department of Labor's home page at: <http://www.labor.ny.gov/home/>. A 15 day comment period was allowed. All comments were taken into account when developing the final draft of this request – OR – X comments were received and are attached along with the outcome of the state's review of these comments.