

# STATE OF NEBRASKA

## *Workforce Investment Act Waiver Request*

### Waiver of Period of Initial Eligibility for Training Providers

**Date:** October 23, 2012  
**State:** Nebraska  
**Agency:** Department of Labor, Office of Employment and Training

#### **Statutory And/OR Regulatory Requirements To Be Waived**

WIA Section 122(c)(5) and 20 CFR 663.530 that require a time limit for initial eligibility for training providers followed by the subsequent eligibility process.

#### **Actions Undertaken To Remove State Or Local Barriers**

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

#### **Goals And Expected Programmatic Outcomes Of Waiver**

- Identify the broadest range of eligible training providers to enable individuals to make informed choices related to their training goals, especially in high growth, high demand industries which will help provide individuals with the knowledge, skills and resources for learning, earning and living.
- Increase the number of eligible training providers and expand the number of available programs to ensure customer choice, especially in the non-metropolitan areas of the State to provide individuals in these areas with additional choices of providers and programs to maximize customer satisfaction while providing them with the necessary skills to meet the changing long-and short-term needs of businesses.
- Provide time and offer technical assistance to training providers that are uncertain about data requirements necessary to receive subsequent eligibility status.
- Enhance the system to administer the eligible training provider process to ensure continuity of training options for workforce customers through a coordinated, efficient, and less bureaucratic delivery system.

The State is interested in enhancing the flexibility of the public workforce system in order to bring a larger number of training provider choices delivered through the State's Eligible Training Provider (ETP) List located at <http://traininglink.dol.state.ne.us>. There are public and private universities, state colleges, community colleges, private postsecondary career colleges and schools, community based organizations, and approved apprenticeship programs on the ETP list. By waiving subsequent eligibility requirements, customers will have a broader range of approved providers from which to select and the providers will have additional time to prepare for reporting requirements.

### **Individuals Impacted By The Waiver**

- All customers including training providers, local Workforce Investment Boards and staff, case managers and State managers of the ETP system, and businesses will be positively affected by the waiver.
- Providers will have adequate time to gather and submit performance information on each program for determining subsequent eligibility.
- Local Workforce Investment Boards will have sufficient performance information to make informed decisions when reviewing applications to be an eligible training provider.
- ITA customers will have the broadest range of types of providers and programs to choose from in order to select the best provider and program to meet their training and career goals.
- All Nebraska Workforce Development customers will have access to information on specific requirements and procedures for subsequent eligibility that affects them.
- Nebraska businesses' staffing needs will be met by applicants trained through the Workforce System having had access to a wide range of programs and providers.

### **Process For Monitoring Progress In Implementation**

The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver through the program and administrative monitoring system.

Technical assistance will be provided to eligible training providers to assist them in gathering the information needed for subsequent eligibility in the future.

### **Notice To Affected Local Boards**

This waiver was initially presented at an April 20, 2005 meeting that Administrators from every local board attended. This waiver was included in all of the State Plan postings since PY2005 and was most recently included in the final draft Five-Year Integrated State Plan posted at [www.dol.nebraska.gov](http://www.dol.nebraska.gov) on September 14, 2012.

### **Public Comment**

This waiver request is posted for public comment on the NDOL website at [www.dol.nebraska.gov](http://www.dol.nebraska.gov). Any comments received will be forwarded to ETA Regional Office. Upon approval of this waiver, NDOL's Office of Employment and Training will issue a revised "Eligible Training Provider" policy that will be disseminated to Local Workforce Investment Areas and Local WIB Chairs. The policy will also be posted on the NDOL website for a 10 day public comment period, with the final policy posted on the NDOL website, at [www.dol.nebraska.gov](http://www.dol.nebraska.gov).