



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (“EOLWD”) is excited that we have the opportunity to provide increased funding to businesses for training through the Workforce Training Fund. In order to make sure that all employers who contribute to the Fund have the opportunity to access it, we have made some adjustments in the administration of the Workforce Training Fund that we hope will result in increased opportunities to address the skill needs of businesses and workers in Massachusetts.

Starting in January 2011, Commonwealth Corporation – a state agency within the Labor and Workforce Secretariat – will issue a Request for Proposals for general applications to the Workforce Training Fund. Subject to funding availability, we hope to have another Request for Proposals in March. In order to facilitate the engagement of small businesses in applying for the Workforce Training Fund, we are expanding the pool of eligible applicants to include training organizations or other intermediaries that may apply on behalf of single or multiple small businesses. Information about the Requests for Proposals will be available on the Workforce Training Fund website (<http://www.mass.gov/wtftp>) and on the Commonwealth Corporation website (<http://www.commcorp.org/areas/int.cfm?ID=12&sub=133>).

The Division of Career Services will continue to accept applications for the Workforce Training Fund Express Program and the Hiring Incentive Training Program. Businesses can access these applications, as well as information about them, on the Workforce Training Fund website.

I encourage you to consider an application to the Workforce Training Fund to address your skill development needs. We are confident that these changes will allow greater access to the Fund and insure that training dollars are allocated and spent wisely and to provide employers and individuals with increased skills and further workforce development. We look forward to working with you on this and welcome your ideas, comments and suggestions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joanne F. Goldstein".