

**TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
NOTICE**

NO. 26-04

DATE April 19, 2005

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS

FROM: *Maria K. Flynn*
MARIA K. FLYNN
Administrator
Office of Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Announcement of a Conference and Call for Proposals for
"From Roots to Wings: Guiding Youth with Disabilities
to Employment"

1. **Purpose.** To inform the workforce investment system of:
1) a conference sponsored by the United States Department of
Education's Rehabilitation Service Administration (RSA) and the
Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation to
enhance the transition delivery system (from education to
employment) for youth with disabilities and, (2) the request for
proposals that may be presented at the conference.

2. **Background.** This national conference, *From Roots to Wings:
Guiding Youth with Disabilities to Employment*, will bring
together vocational rehabilitation and education practitioners
and policy makers and constituency groups for purposes of
capacity-building, highlighting model programs, and developing
strategies for improving transition services overall.

The conference will be held June 16-17, 2005, at the:

Capitol Hilton Hotel
1001 16th Street, NW,
Washington, D.C. 20036-5701
(202) 393-1000

The conference will provide two levels of learning experiences.
The first tier will concentrate on techniques and practices aimed
at improving direct services to youth with disabilities. The
second tier will provide technical assistance to vocational
rehabilitation and special education administrators to help them
identify model methods of administration. These methods then can
be jointly employed to increase collaboration and infuse
innovative practices throughout a school system or state
vocational rehabilitation agency to improve performance and
increase successful outcomes. Five hundred participants are

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210**

expected.

To this end, the conference sponsors are requesting proposals in five different strands. The strands are:

- Strand 1: Bridging the Service Gaps
- Strand 2: Building a Career
- Strand 3: Making Life Choices
- Strand 4: Addressing the Leadership Challenge
- Strand 5: Utilizing Federally Supported Transition Initiatives

Successful applicants will be given 75 minutes for their presentation.

Please see the attached for further information on submitting proposals and registering for this conference.

3. **Action Required.** States are requested to share this TEN with the One-Stop system and all officials within the states who may be interested in this conference or in submitting proposals for presentation.

4. **Inquiries.** Questions on this TEN may be directed to Mary Ann Donovan at (202)693-3936 or Adele Gagliardi at (202)693-3985.

Attachment