## TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

NO. 33-15

DATE April 18, 2016

**TO:** STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS

STATE LABOR MARKET INFORMATION DIRECTORS

STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARDS

ONE STOP OPERATORS AMERICAN JOB CENTERS

**ETA GRANTEES** 

**FROM:** PORTIA WU /s/

**Assistant Secretary** 

**SUBJECT:** Announcement of the Launch of WorkforceGPS

- **1.** <u>Purpose.</u> To announce the launch of WorkforceGPS.org the Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) new technical assistance website. WorkforceGPS.org will replace Workforce3One.org immediately.
- 2. Background. America's public workforce investment system provides high quality services to thousands of individuals and businesses each year. The workforce professionals and other stakeholders who lead and operate that system need access to data, evidence, and information about effective and innovative approaches to maintain those high quality services in an everchanging economy. Beginning in 2004, ETA met this need by providing an on-line learning communication and learning technical assistance platform called Workforce3One. Twelve years later, the site has over 122,000 regular users and hosts more than 4,000 individual resources. Advancements in technology and the passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act have created new demands on the workforce system, and new opportunities to share knowledge and technical assistance. Therefore, ETA is replacing its legacy system with WorkforceGPS.org—a modern web platform designed to improve the user experience for its customers.
- **3.** About WorkforceGPS. WorkforceGPS is an upgraded platform with capabilities that far exceed those of Workforce3One. It gives the public workforce system, education professionals, and business leaders more effective ways to search, save, and share resources—with improved capability to engage with peers. WorkforceGPS is the future of ETA's technical assistance.

WorkforceGPS is still a committed community of public workforce system stakeholders; it is still a place to find great technical assistance resources, and take advantage of online learning opportunities. A key feature of the new website is its consistent look and feel. It is designed

to make the user experience easy and uncomplicated across all devices—desktop computers, tablets, or your smart phone—so you can spend less time trying to find the right tools and more time using them. WorkforceGPS is **the** tool for all your technical assistance needs!

## 4. New Features:

Collection, you understand them all.

- Straightforward and consistent navigation with a responsive interface.

  WorkforceGPS can be accessed on your desktop, laptop and across mobile devices.

  Additionally, WorkforceGPS and its Communities of Practice and Collections have a consistent site design—once you're familiar navigating within one Community or
  - o A Collection is a group of resources relevant to a specific topic or target population.
  - o A Community of Practice is a group of resources related to a topic or target population, with added features intended to promote peer-to-peer interaction and learning within that community. Additional features include discussion topics, blog posts, and sometimes chat.
- **Search.** WorkforceGPS uses an improved search engine tool that allows you to search the entire site or hone in within a specific Community or Collection. Additionally, all content and resources throughout WorkforceGPS are tagged using a comprehensive and consistent taxonomy that ETA developed with the workforce system in mind. This allows you to search for what you need by activity, program, target population, geographic location, industry/sector, or content type.
- Save. Becoming a registered member has its perks. Once registered, with just a mouse click you can save all your favorite resources for easy retrieval on <a href="My WorkforceGPS">My WorkforceGPS</a>. Additionally, all webinars that you attend are automatically saved to your user profile under My Events—this is the place for your stuff.
- **Share.** WorkforceGPS makes it easier than ever to share resources. Not only can you quickly find and save resources, which make them easy to find again for future use, but with a simple mouse click, you can easily send a favorite resource to a peer via email or share it on social media with the hashtag #FoundItOnWFGPS.

## 5. Other Key Features:

- You Might Also Like. When you land on a selected resource, WorkforceGPS uses the power of its comprehensive taxonomy to automatically populate a list of other like resources that may also be of use, similar to what you see on many retail websites.
- Staff Picks & Other Resource Lists. Just like a good bookstore, WorkforceGPS is designed to make it easier for you to find exactly what you are looking for—even if you don't know precisely what that is. That's why WorkforceGPS has curated a list of <a href="Staff Picks">Staff Picks</a>—resources that are highly recommended as best-in-class for users by ETA

staff. Wherever you see the Staff Pick icon, it's worth taking a look. You can also browse resources by additional lists like top-rated resources and recently added content.

- 6. Action Requested. All current registered Wokforce3One users will receive an email inviting them to register on WorkforceGPS.org. Once registered, users can take advantage of the MyWorkforceGPS features—My Profile, My Content, My Events, My Communities, My Membership & Notifications. Users can also join specific Communities and Collections, sign up for site notifications and newsletters, and start curating their own compilation of saved resources. Visit <a href="https://www.workforcegps.org">www.workforcegps.org</a> to start navigating to success today!
- 7. <u>Inquiries</u>. For more information on WorkforceGPS, visit <a href="https://www.workforcegps.org/">https://www.workforcegps.org/</a>. For specific questions related to WorkforceGPS, email <a href="mailto:support@workforcegps.org">support@workforcegps.org</a>.