



DEC 19 2019

The Honorable Timothy Walz
Governor of Minnesota
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz:

Thank you for your waiver request received by the Department of Labor (Department) on October 17, 2019, regarding certain statutory and regulatory provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the accompanying plan to improve the statewide workforce development system (copy enclosed). This letter provides the Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) official response to the State's request and memorializes that Minnesota will meet the outcomes and implement the measures identified in its plan to ensure accountability agreed to by Minnesota and ETA. This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIOA Title I, Subtitles A, B, and E, and Sections 8–10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act in WIOA Section 189(i).

Requested Waiver: Waiver of 20 CFR § 681.550 to allow WIOA individual training accounts (ITAs) for eligible in-school youth (ISY).

ETA Response: ETA approves, through June 30, 2020, the State's request to waive the requirement limiting ITAs to only out-of-school youth (OSY), ages 16–24. In addition to OSY, the State may use ITAs for ISY, ages 18–21. ETA reviewed the State's waiver request and plan and has determined that the requirements requested to be waived impede the ability of Minnesota to implement its plan to improve the workforce development system. Approval of this waiver should not impede the State's efforts to prioritize OSY, including outreach to the OSY population.

ETA is available for further discussion and to provide technical assistance to the State to support its goals. The Department proposed additional flexibility in its Fiscal Year 2018, 2019, and 2020 budgets to give governors more decision-making authority to meet the workforce needs of their states.

If you have questions, feel free to contact my office at (202) 693-2772.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Pallasch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Pallasch
Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training

Enclosure

cc: Steve Grove, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic
Development
Christine Quinn, Chicago Regional Administrator, ETA
Pamela Jones, Federal Project Officer, ETA