



MAWB Jobseeker Services Committee Minutes

March 24, 2021

Summary of Best Practice Presentation

Dina Wuornos and Diana Ristamaki from Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services shared a presentation about their use of the Wonderlic GAIN assessment which they have been administering online during COVID-19. It does take about two hours to administer the full test, so they will likely not use it very often for in-person services, but it will continue to be available online for those who prefer remote services. [See presentation](#) for further details.

Leading with Equity Roundtable Discussion: Culturally Sensitive/Specific Assessment Tools

Carrie Bendix described a pictorial assessment that her area uses and referenced their partnership with ABE on Roadmap to Work, an employment-focused curriculum that builds language skills. Julie Dincau, ABE shared that her team has completed the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) assessment. Sarah Saito shared that TAA has licenses for the CAPs, COPES, COPS assessment available for dislocated workers. Contact deed.taa@state.mn.us for more information. Cole shared the Duluth [Diversity and Inclusion Employer Action Guide](#) which focuses on diversity and inclusion in recruiting, hiring, onboarding, and retention.

Summary of Featured Topic

Amy Carlson shared follow-up information from last month's meeting regarding the impact of incumbent worker training on performance standards. [See document](#). The next Partner Express will include additional guidance. The PIRL will be updated to have the IWT activity show up in the Credential/MSG measure. A meeting attendee asked whether there was a formal definition for "at risk of layoff" in terms of IWT eligibility. Amy will research this question and come back to the group, potentially with a one-pager document regarding who is eligible for IWT.

DHS Updates

- MFIP
 - Workforce One Connect App progress continues with a plan to launch later this year. The 3rd Thursday of the month features a meeting and demonstrations of the app. Email Ma Yang, ma.yang@state.mn.us to join a meeting.
 - Have been partnering with many state agencies, tribal leadership, and various associations regarding the rollout plan. Rollout will be staggered. DEED is working on a "train the trainers" model. Currently planning for a 30-day rollout period.
- SNAP E&T
 - There are additional funds available for those who receive 100% funds. The funds can be used on specific projects which reach specific populations and must be used by September 30th. Reach out to Anastasia Polda at anastasia.polda@state.mn.us before Monday, March 29th if you have ideas for projects. There is also another opportunity to

serve those above 50 through a partnership with AARP. Still waiting on finalization of the Final Rule Change, but they are watching specifically for provisions on notices, provisions on re-referrals, and subsidized employment. If you have a particular interest in subsidized employment or strong feelings that it should not be implemented, contact Anastasia to be included in conversations about this.

DEED Updates

- Adult Team: General Updates, Adult Career Pathways, WIOA Adult & Dislocated Worker, Trade Adjustment Assistance. [See written updates.](#)
- Youth Team: [See written updates.](#)
- CareerForce
 - Thousands of calls are being made to people who have applied to UI. They are primarily contacting hospitality workers right now.
 - Stay tuned for more information regarding training on the back end of MinnesotaWorks.
 - Standardized workshop pilots end this month. They are working to formalize a facilitator training at the end of April. The Standardized Workshops Pilot team will work together to create a preliminary list to send invitations to, but it can be forwarded to anyone to attend the training.
 - Pilot locations can continue to schedule workshops in April. Statewide workshops will also continue through April.

ABE Updates: [See written updates.](#) See also [list of online statewide career focused ABE classes.](#)