

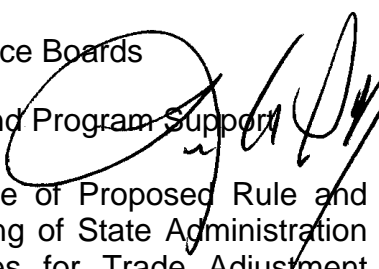


Date of Issue: August 11, 2009
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AWI Communiqué

DATE: August 11, 2009

TO: Workforce Florida, Inc., and Regional Workforce Boards

FROM: Lois A. Scott, Program Manager, One-Stop and Program Support 

SUBJECT: United States Department of Labor – Notice of Proposed Rule and Request for Comment regarding Merit Staffing of State Administration and Allocation of Training Funds to States for Trade Adjustment Assistance

PURPOSE:

To notify Workforce Partners of proposed rule changes that would require the use of merit based state employees to operate the Trade Adjustment Assistance program (TAA); and to inform partners of the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule.

BACKGROUND:

The USDOL issued a Notice of Proposed Rule that, if passed, will implement the following steps in the administration of the TAA:

1. Mandate that, after a transition period, States engage only State government personnel employed under a merit system to perform Trade-Adjustment Assistance funded functions related to worker assistance.
2. Make initial allocations to the States based on revised methodologies; and apply a hold harmless provision of 25% of the previous year's funding (as opposed to the current hold harmless provision of 85%).

The deadline for submitting comments to the USDOL is October 5, 2009.

REFERENCE:

“Trade Adjustment Assistance; Merit Staffing of State Administration and Allocation of Training Funds to States; Proposed Rules”, *Federal Register*, Vol. 74, No. 149, pages 39198 *et seq.* (Wednesday, August 5, 2009).

AUTHORITY:

United States Department of Labor

ACTION REQUIRED:

Interested parties may submit comments to the USDOL on this proposed rule by October 5, 2009, as detailed in the Notice.

ATTACHMENT

Copy of “Trade Adjustment Assistance; Merit Staffing of State Administration and Allocation of Training Funds to States; Proposed Rules”