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West Virginia TAA/WIOA Co- Enrollment: Working together

Blog-Post

West Virginia's Acting Commissioner for Workforce West Virginia mandated co-enrollment for TAA participants into the WIA program in 2011. Mandated co-enrollment continued under the WIOA program in 2015. The Acting Commissioner's primary objective is the timely delivery and integration of career and/or individual services and to promote a seamless delivery of these services to all dislocated workers.

The coordination between TAA and partner agencies is critical in promoting the benefits of co-enrollment and the overall success in training enrollments, training completions, credential attainments, and positive employment outcomes.

The key to achieving co-enrollment requirements **must** include on-going, consistent, and direct communication and actively involving all partner agencies in the process to avoid duplication of services or activities. Sometimes this is not an easy task and requires the planning and sharing of information in a timely manner. West Virginia's TAA staff involve the local WorkForce Development Board (WDB) Directors, the State and local WorkForce Staff, Rapid Response teams, and WIOA career planners in the TAA process.

Co-enrollment is part of our initial process flow when discussing TAA benefits and services at the Rapid Response Informational Meetings (RRIMS) or Benefit Rights Informational meetings (BRIMS). Partner agencies are notified of the scheduled meetings and WIOA staff are invited to attend these meetings and schedule WIOA appointments. When a petition is pending certification, a participant who is co-enrolled in WIOA can begin receiving employment and/or training services without a lapse in accessing services. By co-enrolling TAA participants in the WIOA Dislocated Worker (DW) program, it becomes a win-win situation for all programs and better serves the TAA participant. TAA case managers continually work with local offices and WIOA case managers/case planners to achieve this goal.

Since March 2020, West Virginia has also been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and how we would "normally" conduct meetings and offer services. Most of our activities have been virtual and we have developed a PowerPoint video to share with potential TAA participants. In addition, the same information is shared with partner agencies as West Virginia continues to co-enroll our participants. It has certainly been challenging and requires a great deal of follow through and follow up for all entities.

The bottom line is getting everyone "on board" and willing to work collaboratively for a common goal:

Serving the customer!

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