

State of Arkansas Workforce Investment Act Waiver Plan

June 30, 2009

1. **Waiver of the funds transfer limit between the WIA adult and dislocated worker programs to allow the State to approve local area requests to transfer up to 40 percent of local area allocations between the two programs. This waiver will not apply to Recovery Act funds.**

The statutory or regulatory requirements that we are requesting be waived:

WIA Section 133(b)(4)(A) and (B)

The actions that the State has undertaken to remove state or local statutory or regulatory barriers:

There are no existing state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing this waiver request.

The goals of the waiver and the expected programmatic outcomes if the request is granted:

The goals of the waiver are:

- To provide greater flexibility in the design of local area adult and dislocated worker service delivery plans
- To enhance the ability of local boards to respond to changing workforce and economic dynamics within their local areas
- To increase the ability of local boards to provide targeted assistance in response to customer needs
- To enhance the local board's ability to respond to employer needs for workers trained in employer-specific skills.

The expected outcomes are improved performance measures.

The individuals impacted by the waiver:

Unemployed and under-employed adults and dislocated workers

The process to be used to monitor the progress in implementing such a waiver:

The Arkansas Workforce Investment Board will be responsible for receiving and considering for approval, all requests for a transfer of funds. The Department of Workforce Services' Office of Financial Management and Administrative Services will track and record all funds transfers, and the Department of Workforce Services' Office of Monitoring and Compliance will monitor local level implementation.

The process by which notice and an opportunity to comment on such request has been provided:

The public has been notified of the request through public notice and a 30-day comment period.

2. **Waiver to permit implementation of (and reporting only) common measures in place of current measures. This waiver will also apply to Recovery Act funds.**

The statutory or regulatory requirements that we are requesting be waived:

WIA Section 136

The actions that the State has undertaken to remove statutory or regulatory barriers:

There are no existing state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing this waiver request.

The goals of the waiver and the expected programmatic outcomes if the request is granted:

The common measures provide a simplified and streamlined performance measurement system and have become the basis of the workforce system's performance accountability.

The individuals impacted by the waiver:

Approval of this waiver will positively impact all customers of the workforce investment system by simplifying program management and performance measurement.

The process to be used to monitor the progress in implementing such a waiver:

The Arkansas Workforce Investment Board will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver, as well as progress toward expected outcomes, through a combination of performance reporting from the local workforce investment areas and discussion with stakeholders.

The process by which notice and an opportunity to comment on such request has been provided:

The public has been notified of the request through public notice and a 30-day comment period.