

**WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE**

KEN HECHLER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #2

RECEIVED
Feb 13 10 22 AM '99
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF A COMMENT PERIOD ON A PROPOSED RULE

AGENCY: West Development Office TITLE NUMBER: 145

RULE TYPE: Legislative; CITE AUTHORITY 18B-3D-5

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES NO X

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: 9

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Workforce Development Initiative
Program

IN LIEU OF A PUBLIC HEARING, A COMMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED DURING WHICH ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY SEND COMMENTS CONCERNING THESE PROPOSED RULES. THIS COMMENT PERIOD WILL END ON September 13, 1999 AT 4:30 p.m. ONLY WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND ARE TO BE MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

West Virginia Development Office
Capitol Complex, Bldg. 6, Rm 525
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0311
Attn: Dana D. Davis

THE ISSUES TO BE HEARD SHALL BE LIMITED TO THIS PROPOSED RULE.

John B. Sinder
Authorized Signature

ATTACH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF YOUR PROPOSAL

4.20

APPENDIX B

FISCAL NOTE FOR PROPOSED RULES

Rule Title: Workforce Development Initiative Program

Type of Rule: x Legislative Interpretive Procedural

Agency West Virginia Development Office

Address State Capitol Complex, Building 6, Room 525
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0311

1. Effect of Proposed Rule

	ANNUAL		FISCAL YEAR		
	INCREASE	DECREASE	CURRENT	NEXT	THEREAFTER
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$37,500		\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$27,000		\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$10,000		\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
REPAIRS & ALTERATIONS	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT	\$2500		\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0

2. Explanation of above estimates:

Effectively manage the Workforce Development Program. The statute provides for program administration in an amount not to exceed 5 percent or a maximum of \$50,000 of the funds available annually for grants. This includes general program administration, evaluation of the performance of workforce development initiative grants awarded and annual program reports.

3. Objectives of these rules:

To increase the capacity of the state's education institutions to respond rapidly to employer needs for workforce education and training on an ongoing basis.

Rule Title: Work Force Development Initiative Program

4. Explanation of Overall Economic Impact of proposed Rule.

A. Economic Impact on State Government.

Improved economic opportunities through enhanced training opportunities for existing and new businesses.

B. Economic Impact on Political Subdivisions; Specific Industries; Specific groups of Citizens.

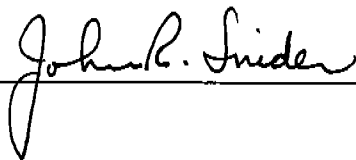
Improved employer awareness and access to the services through the state's education institutions.

C. Economic Impact on Citizens/Public at Large.

Implementation of printed programs for citizens and public at large that enhance economic growth and opportunities.

Date: August 11, 1999

Signature of Agency Head or Authorized Representative

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John B. Snider". The signature is written above a solid horizontal line that extends across the page.

1153

Workforce Development Initiative Program Proposed Legislative Rule

AUG 13 10 32 AM '99

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECTION 1: GENERAL

- 1.1 Scope Implementation of the Workforce Development Initiative Program.
- 1.2 Authority West Virginia Code §18B-3D-1, et seq.
- 1.3 Filing Date _____
- 1.4 Effective Date _____

SECTION 2: PURPOSE

- 2.1 This rule establishes guidelines and procedures for administration and oversight of the Workforce Development Initiative Program by the Council for Community and Economic Development ("Council"), with assistance from an advisory committee, to achieve the following statements of legislative intent:
 - 2.1.1 Competitively awarding funds to promote the mission of community and technical colleges as set forth in W. Va. Code §18B-3-3a.
 - 2.1.2 Providing limited seed money to address specific areas where improvement is needed, including:
 - 2.1.2.1 Improving employer awareness and access to services available through the state's education institutions;
 - 2.1.2.2 Providing designated professionals and resources to support workforce education through the state's educational institutions;
 - 2.1.2.3 Increasing the capacity of the state's education institutions to respond rapidly to employer needs for workforce education and training on an on-going basis through the development of a client-focused, visible point of contact for program development, delivery, service referral and needs assessment, such as a workforce development center; and

- 2.1.2.4 Maximizing the use of available resources for workforce education and training through partnerships with public vocational, technical and adult education centers and private training providers.
- 2.1.3 Providing partnering and grant award opportunities to small businesses on an equal basis with larger businesses.
- 2.1.4 Awarding seed money to assist providers in becoming self-sustaining through partnerships with business and industry, including cost-sharing initiatives and fee for service arrangements.
- 2.1.5 Awarding funds competitively among applicants who meet all criteria established in the statute, these rules, and as may be specified from time to time by the Council.

SECTION 3: ROLE OF COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1 The Council for Community and Economic Development will administer and oversee the Workforce Development Initiative by:
 - 3.1.1 Administering the Community College Workforce Development Fund;
 - 3.1.2 Establishing criteria for grant applications;
 - 3.1.3 Receiving, reviewing and selecting applications for funding;
 - 3.1.4 Approving the expenditure of all grant funds; and
 - 3.1.5 Evaluating the performance of workforce development initiatives and annually reviewing initiatives for grant renewal.
- 3.2 To aid in decision-making, the Council shall appoint an advisory committee consisting of a maximum of nine members that include, at a minimum, the Vice Chancellor for Community and Technical Colleges, the Secretary of Education and the Arts or a designee, the Assistant State Superintendent for Technical and Adult Education, the Chair of the Joint Commission for Vocational-Technical-Occupational Education, the Chair of the Human Resource Investment Council. A majority of the members appointed to the advisory council must be present in person or through electronic means for

the transaction of business.

- 3.3 The Chair of the Council shall report to the legislative oversight commission on education accountability on the status of the workforce development initiative program by December 1, 1999, and annually thereafter by the first day of December.

SECTION 4: ROLE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- 4.1 The advisory committee shall review all applications for workforce development initiative grants and make a report, including recommendations for distributing grant funds, to the Council.
- 4.2 The advisory committee shall recommend methods to share any curricula developed as a result of a workforce development initiative grant with other community and technical colleges and other educational institutions that may benefit from the curricula.
- 4.3 The advisory committee shall provide advice and assistance to the Council on such other matters related to the Workforce Development Initiative Program as the Council may request.

SECTION 5: GRANT PROCESS

- 5.1 The Council will from time to time solicit proposals for competitive grant funding to achieve the purposes and intent of the Workforce Development Initiative Program. Subject to the availability of funds, more than one competition may be held during the same fiscal year.
- 5.2 Subject to annual review and justification and at the sole discretion of the Council, grant awards may be renewed by the Council for a period not to exceed five years.
- 5.3 When determining which grant proposals will be funded, the Council will give special consideration to proposals that involve businesses with fewer than fifty employees.
- 5.4 The Council will weigh proposals to avoid awarding grants which will have the ultimate effect of providing an unfair advantage to new employers to the state who will be in direct competition with established local businesses.

SECTION 6: FUNDS GENERALLY

- 6.1 Moneys appropriated or otherwise made available for the Workforce Development Initiative Program will be used to provide incentives for partnerships between employers and eligible community and technical colleges to develop comprehensive workforce development services.
- 6.2 Funds will be granted on the basis of request for proposals developed by the Council and in accordance with these rules.
- 6.3 The Council may allocate a reasonable amount, not to exceed five percent or a maximum of \$50,000 of the funds available for grants annually, for general program administration.

SECTION 7: ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

- 7.1 To participate in the Workforce Development Initiative Program, a community and technical college must meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - 7.1.1 A district consortia committee as required by W. Va. Code §18B-3a-3, must be established and functioning.
 - 7.1.2 The establishment of a plan developed in partnership with employers, local vocational schools and other workforce education providers to achieve measurable improvements over a five-year period in the quality of the workforce within the community and technical college service area.
 - 7.1.3 The establishment of a special revolving fund under the jurisdiction of the district consortia committee dedicated solely to workforce development initiatives for the purposes provided in these rules. Any fees or revenues generated from workforce development initiatives funded by a competitive grant shall be deposited into this fund.
 - 7.1.4 The adoption of the following within the mission of the community and technical college:
 - 7.1.4.1 That they are a client-focused institution that develops programs meeting documented employer needs;

- 7.1.4.2 That they are an institution that involves and collaborates with employers in the development of programs;
- 7.1.4.3 That they are an institution that develops customized training programs based upon the changing needs of employers and that are offered at flexible times and locations to accommodate employer scheduling;
- 7.1.4.4 That they are an institution that develops partnerships with other providers, public and private, including small business development centers, vocational, technical and adult education centers, and business and labor, to fulfill the workforce development needs of its service area;
- 7.1.4.5 That they are an institution that assists in the on-going assessment of the workforce development needs of its service area; and
- 7.1.4.6 That they are an institution that serves as a visible point of contact for service delivery and referral for services to meet the workforce development needs of its service area.

SECTION 8: MINIMUM APPLICATION CRITERIA

- 8.1 To be eligible for a workforce development initiative grant, a community and technical college must submit an application that includes, at a minimum, the following:
 - 8.1.1 That the district consortia committee or a subcommittee thereof has participated in the development of the application and approved the application.
 - 8.1.2 That the district consortia committee or a subcommittee thereof has approved the workforce development initiative budget.
 - 8.1.3 The identification of specific business or business sector training needs that will be met if a workforce development initiative grant is awarded.

- 8.1.4 A commitment from the private sector to provide a match of one dollar for each dollar of state grant money awarded unless the community and technical college can demonstrate in their application that it would be a hardship for the business or businesses being served to provide such a match. In those cases only, the match required may be reduced to one private dollar for every three dollars of state grant money awarded.
- 8.1.5 An agreement to share with other community and technical colleges or other educational institutions any curricula developed using funds from a workforce development initiative grant.
- 8.1.6 A specific plan showing how the community and technical college will collaborate with local post-secondary vocational institutions to maximize the use of existing facilities.
- 8.1.7 An acknowledgment that acceptance of a Workforce Development Initiative grant commits the community and technical college and its consortia committee to such terms, conditions and deliverables as is specified by the Council in the request for applications, including, but not limited to, the measures by which the performance of the grant award will be evaluated.

TITLE 144

LEGISLATIVE RULE

WEST VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

SERIES 9

Workforce Development Initiative Program

SUMMARY

The proposed rule governs the procedure for making grants available to community and technical colleges for the purpose of implementing the Workforce Development Initiative Program. The rule establishes eligibility, minimum application criteria, grant procedures and the roles of the Council for Community and Economic Development and an advisory committee.

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

WV Code §18B-3D-5 directs that the above legislative rule be promulgated.

AUTHORIZATION TO FILE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

A PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE

The West Virginia Development Office is authorized to file for public comment a proposed legislative rule titled Workforce Development Initiative Program, Title 145, Series 9.



Robert Reintsema
Commissioner
Bureau of Commerce



Date