

BOB RILEY
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA

DR. MATTHEW HUGHES
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM #2009-FLDSVC-017

DATE: March 19, 2009

TO: Area Managers
Career Center Coordinators

FROM: Susan Norman
Associate Director of Field Services

SUBJECT: Issuance of Governor's Set Aside – Rapid Response Served Individual Training Account (ITA) Numbers for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

The ARRA of 2009 was effective on February 17, 2009. However, funding has only recently been allocated to the states; and policies related to these funds are still being issued by the U.S. Department of Labor. What we do know is that all participants funded with ARRA funds must be tracked separately to include all ARRA expenditures related to these participants. The best way to conceptualize the ARRA is to think of it as a totally separate grant, which it is, sort of like the National Emergency Grants that Alabama sometimes gets due to natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina.

New enrollments beginning immediately for Governor's Set Aside Rapid Response served (Level II) dislocated workers should be accomplished using the attached list of ARRA ITA project numbers. Only those who will complete training in one year or less should be enrolled using these ARRA ITA project numbers. Short term training of one year or less in duration is the objective of these funds.

Our regular WIA Governor's Set Aside ITA funds will continue to pay for other individuals seeking training with a duration greater than one year, but no more than two years. The current Governor's Set Aside Rapid Response served ITA agreement will be increased effective April 1, 2009 for new enrollments for training if more than one year in duration, but less than two years.

Generally speaking, training should be of a duration long enough to complete the training at the time employers are starting to hire new workers. Completion in a few weeks in certain occupations (with huge lay offs in your area) may result in a trained worker with no place to acquire employment. Therefore, those who counsel people (prior to enrollment) need to be aware of the likelihood of a person getting employed in certain industries at the time that training would be completed. Training truck drivers (normally very short term training) with the current unemployment statistics may result in a trained person who may have forgotten most of his/her training by the time those who have been laid off are rehired (before they hire new people).

Issuance of Governor's Set Aside – Rapid Response Served Individual Training Account (ITA)
Numbers for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009
March 19, 2009
Page 2

Additional guidance and allocation on regular formula AWIA stimulus ITA funds will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. As we are in the process of determining specific activities and training options to utilize the stimulus money, please continue to recruit and prepare individuals for enrollment in short term training.

Please disseminate this guidance and the attached list to all career center staff involved in the enrollment process for Governor's Set Aside Rapid Response served dislocated workers. Thank you for your cooperation and adherence to the ARRA policies.

SN/BEH/kcs/mew

Attachment

c: Ben Barnes
Hattie Cotton
Tamara Holcomb
Bill Hornsby
Matthew Hughes
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