

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OCTAE/DAEL 15-2

TO: State Directors of Adult Education

FROM: Johan E. Uvin /s/

Acting Assistant Secretary for

Career, Technical, and Adult Education

RE: Announcing the Release of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

(WIOA) Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) on Federal Register

Public Inspection

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the release of five notices of proposed rulemaking (NPRMs) related to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), enacted on July 22, 2014, made available for public inspection on the <u>Federal Register</u> Public Inspection Web site at: https://federalregister.gov/a/2015-05540.

The five NPRMs include:

- Joint NPRM—The U.S. Departments of Education (ED) and Labor (DOL) developed a joint NPRM to implement jointly-administered activities under title I of WIOA regarding Unified and Combined State Plans, performance accountability, and the one-stop system. The joint NPRM applies to all core programs, including the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services and the Adult Education program.
- DOL-only NPRM—This NPRM will implement changes made to the adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs authorized under title I of WIOA.

Three ED-only NPRMs:

- Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)—This NPRM will implement changes to programs authorized under AEFLA, which is contained in title II of WIOA.
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973—Two NPRMs will implement changes made to the programs authorized under the Rehabilitation Act, which is contained in title IV of WIOA, as well as new provisions added:
 - State Vocational Rehabilitation Services program and the State Supported Employment Services program, as well as new provisions in Section 511 (Limitations on the Use of Subminimum Wages); and
 - All other Rehabilitation Act programs administered by ED—Client Assistance, American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights, Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind programs, and the

discretionary grant programs authorized under title III of the Rehabilitation Act.

The NPRMs will be published in the <u>Federal Register</u> soon, at which time the official 60-day comment period will begin. Until the time of publication, the NPRMs are available for unofficial viewing only. You may use this time to become familiar with the content of the NPRMs and to begin to prepare your comments for submission after publication and during the 60-day comment period.

Once the NPRMs are published in the <u>Federal Register</u> and the 60-day public comment period begins, you can submit your written comments online through Regulations.gov at: <u>www.regulations.gov</u>. At this website, you will also find instructions for accessing agency documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket. You may also submit hard copy comments via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. Each NPRM contains specific instructions for submitting hard copy comments related to that proposed regulations in that particular NPRM in the "Addresses" section.

For more information, please visit <u>www.ed.gov/aefla</u> for additional resources, as it becomes available.