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Date: 3/9/2015 5:23:42 PM
Subject: Fwd:

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mottel, Haley" <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>
Date: March 9, 2015 at 5:13:22 PM EDT
To: "Veldran, Katherine" <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>

83.7. (DEW: Direct Training) From the funds appropriated to the Department of Employment and Workforce (department) for direct training, the department shall, by **August 1, 2015**, establish a program to provide subsidized direct training for eligible individuals at eligible training institutions for the purpose of improving employment outcomes for eligible individuals pursuant to the requirements of this section.

(A) Eligibility for individuals shall be determined by the department but shall include, at a minimum, negative screening for drugs of abuse, successful completion of Silver WorkKeys certification, participation in employment preparation activities as directed by the department, and maintaining adequate attendance and vocational progress in prescribed training programs subsidized by the program.

(B) Eligibility for institutions to provide training services shall be determined by the department but shall include, at a minimum licensure as an eligible institution of higher education or postsecondary job skills training, a demonstrable record of positive employment outcomes as evaluated by the department, and a suitable return on investment of training dollars, and assessed by the department and steering committee.

(C) Eligible training programs selected shall be those most likely to produce long-term employment for the greatest number of eligible individuals, and display potential for long-term wage growth.

(1) The department shall select training programs at eligible institutions based on information received from unfilled jobs reports, surveys of businesses detailing employment needs, and feedback from local business associations and economic development professionals.

(2) In order to make appropriate determinations of employee demand and program eligibility, the department shall divide the state into four distinct regions and produce a separate analysis detailed in item (C)(1) for each region. The department may choose to provide direct training funds for different sets of eligible programs in each of the four regions, based on regional need. Nothing in this section precludes eligible individuals from seeking training in a region in which they do not reside.

(3) The department may negotiate the cost of eligible training programs with eligible training providers and enter into memorandums of agreement with training

providers, including public institutions of higher education to ratify negotiated fee schedules.

(4) The department may approve training programs established to address the training needs of a single employer or industry that does not result in a training certificate or nationally recognized trade certification. Funds used for this purpose shall not supplant those appropriated for ReadySC and, to the extent practicable, employers who appear to be eligible for participation in ReadySC must be referred by the department to the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education for inclusion in that program.

(D) Funding for eligible individuals pursuant to item (A) participating in eligible training programs pursuant to items (B) and (C) shall be made on a reimbursable basis. Individuals electing to participate in a subsidized training program pursuant to this section must agree to repay the department on a schedule approved by the department. The department shall provide explanation of this requirement on applications and promissory notes produced by the department for the administration of this program. The department shall partner with the South Carolina Department of Revenue to administer recovery of training funds through the state's income tax program.

(E) The department shall, by **August 1, 2015**, report to the Governor, Chairman of Senate Finance, and Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, on accountability measures used to evaluate the success of training programs in terms of cost, completion, employment outcomes, wage growth, and other indicators deemed necessary by the department to measure program effectiveness.

(F) The department may retain and expend not more than seven percent of total funds appropriated for the program to be used for program development, marketing and recruiting efforts, and administration of the program.

(G) Unexpended funds appropriated for this program and those recovered pursuant to item (D) of this section shall be carried forward and used for the same purpose.