



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
54 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0054

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

Jeanne S. Paquette  
COMMISSIONER

September 25, 2014

Ms. Holly O'Brien  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration  
Room E-350 John F. Kennedy Building  
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Ms. O'Brien:

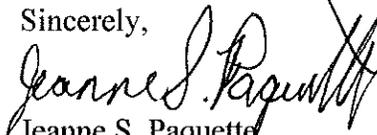
The State of Maine is pleased to submit the required Review of Deliverables and Outcomes for the Program Year 2013 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

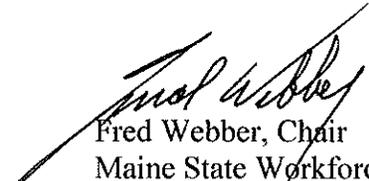
Maine's staff improved its delivery of economic context by continuing to enhance its website with new data visualizations and through the addition of a blog. This year's highlights include a new visualization on disabled workers, a Healthcare Workforce publication and the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission presentations. Attached is a more detailed description of the activities performed under the grant.

While Maine is stretching the resources secured through the Core Products and Services grant as much as possible, we continue to advocate for increased allocations and the identification of additional funding sources for workforce information. Through a partnership with our economic development agency a job vacancy survey has been initiated. When complete the data will considerably improve Maine's ability to target training to industries and occupations. We encourage the Employment and Training Administration to increase its investments in data and context to inform workforce planning decisions.

If you have questions or require additional information regarding this grant application, please contact Chris Boudreau, Director, Center for Workforce Research and Information (207) 621-5186.

Sincerely,

  
Jeanne S. Paquette  
Commissioner

  
Fred Webber, Chair  
Maine State Workforce Investment Board

## Maine Workforce Investment Grants for States Activities PY 2014

- 1) **Workforce Information Database (WIDb) supply the version used and any activities this year**
  - a) Version 2.5
  - b) The WID is updated as new data become available for use with the Tableau interactive data visualizations on the CWRI website.
- 2) **Industry and occupational projections (please submit accessible links for these projections and/or the excel files for these projections if you do not publish the short-term). Including:**
  - a) Statewide long-term to 2022 are available on our website at this URL:  
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/outlook.html>
  - b) Statewide short term projected to 2015 are available at this URL:  
[www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/data/projections/ETA\\_Extract-Maine-2015.xlsx](http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/data/projections/ETA_Extract-Maine-2015.xlsx)
- 3) **Economic Analysis/ Special Studies (supply these in a separate attachment or accessible links to these reports)**
  - a) CWRI has started a blog <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/blog.html> Blog include:
    - i) The Changing Nature of Jobs in Retail Trade
    - ii) Is Self-Employment Really Declining
    - iii) 2014 Health Occupations Report Released
    - iv) Workforce Data Revisions
    - v) Who is Not Participating in the Labor Force
    - vi) Union Membership 2013
    - vii) The Rising Cost of Not Going to College
  - b) New publications and presentations available on our Publication page <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/pubs.html> and include:
    - i) Putting Maine Job Growth in Context (PDF)
    - ii) Top 25 Employers in Maine by County, 1st Quarter 2014 (Excel) (PDF)
    - iii) Top 50 Employers in Maine, 1st Quarter 2014 (Excel)(PDF)
    - iv) Maine Workforce Conditions and Outlook to 2022, Presented to the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission and Revenue Forecasting Commission (PDF)
    - v) Maine's Health Workforce: What Does the Data Tell Us? Presented to the Maine Health Workforce Forum (PowerPoint)
    - vi) 2014 Health Occupations Report (PDF) (Word)
    - vii) Workers with Disabilities, Maine, 2014 Update (Interactive)
    - viii) Workforce Conditions and Growth Forecast Issues, Presented to the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (PowerPoint) (PDF)
    - ix) Maine's Workforce Challenges, Presented to State Workforce Investment Board (PDF)
    - x) Workforce Conditions and Growth Forecast Issues, Presented to the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (PowerPoint) (PDF)
    - xi) New Businesses Started in 2008: Tracking Jobs and Wages through 2012 (Word) (PDF)
    - xii) Workforce Conditions & Demographic Challenges to Growth, Presented to the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission & Revenue Forecasting Commission - July 23, 2013 (PowerPoint) (PDF)
- 4) **Customer Consultations**
  - a) Restarted regular meetings with the Local Workforce Investment Boards to consult on new and existing LMI products and how to best meet customer needs with existing data. There will be an ongoing presence at LWIB meetings and scheduled training sessions for local staff.
- 5) **Activities undertaken to meet customer needs**

## Maine Workforce Investment Grants for States Activities PY 2014

- a) CWRI has started to survey employers for Job Vacancy data including asking about difficult to fill occupations.
  - b) CWRI has added Local Workforce Investment Board areas to its QCEW and OES data visualizations to provide more local information on industry employment and wages and occupational employment and wage data.
    - i) Industry data: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/qcew1.html>
    - ii) Occupational data: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/oes1.html>
- 6) New tools and resources**
- a) Employment Outcomes for Maine's Public Post-secondary Graduates is an interactive data visualization that helps end users determine employment and wage outcomes from community college and university education programs.  
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/wdqi/>
  - b) CWRI has added Local Workforce Investment Board areas to its QCEW and OES data visualizations to provide more local information on industry employment and wages and occupational employment and wage data.
    - i) Industry data: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/qcew1.html>
    - ii) Occupational data: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/oes1.html>
  - c) CWRI developed a Workers with Disabilities interactive:  
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/disabilities/index.html>
  - d) CWRI added a Job Vacancy Survey (JVS) webpage to support our JVS that we are currently conducting: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/jvs.html>
  - e) A "Wage Range" tab added to OES interactive  
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/oes1.html>
- 7) Efforts to create and support partnerships and collaborations**
- a) CWRI has been in ongoing collaborations with Maine's Department of Education, the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System on the development of education outcomes data. This work funded between the US DOE's SLDS Grant and the ETA's WDQI grant has produced a dash board of first year employment and wage outcomes. Work will continue on adding data sources (partners) and expanding the longitudinal capacity of the system.
- 8) Activities to leverage LMI-WI funding**
- a) CWRI has developed a relationship with Maine's Economic Development agency to provide information on in demand occupations. With funding support from both the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Workforce Information Grant CWRI has started to survey employers for Job Vacancy data including asking about difficult to fill occupations.
  - b) Currently working with a legislative task force on the funding and implementation of an education and training outcomes data warehouse and reporting site. This task force is charged with funding and guiding the continued development work initially started using the SLDS and WDQI grants.
- 9) Recommendations to ETA for changes and improvements to WIGs requirements**
- a) Increase base funding for small states. Current funding levels do not support the same set of deliverables in all states. Infrastructure costs for systems are similar for small states as they are for large states. This leaves a much smaller percentage of funding for meeting the varied customer needs.
  - b) Replace short term projections with a consistent job vacancy survey with additional funding to support data collection. Provide common systems and procedures across states to ensure consistency of data across states.

## Maine Workforce Investment Grants for States Activities PY 2014

- c) Solve the Estimates Delivery System funding issue. Adopt the system as a nationally supported way to deliver occupational data for custom areas including LWIBs.
- d) Stop promoting job postings as Real Time LMI and as a replacement to traditionally developed occupational demand products. Job postings data were researched as part of the Northeast Consortium's Green LMI Project. The consortium determined that postings were not appropriate as a decision making tool. The data series is better at showing larger trends, but must be used in conjunction with other LMI data series. At higher levels of detail it could easily misinform a user. A good review of postings as real time LMI is on the Connecticut site at:  
<http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/green/Guide%20To%20Using%20Real-Time%20Data%20for%20LMI%20Analysts.pdf>