In 2014, the President signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which replaced the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. This new law represents a renewed commitment to workforce development with an eye to the future through innovation and support for individual and national economic growth. It is aimed at increasing opportunities, particularly for those facing barriers to employment, and invests in the important connection between education and career preparation. It looks to the prosperity of workers and employers and focuses on the economic growth of communities, regions, and states to enhance our global competitiveness as a country.

The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education announced the publication of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act final rules in the Federal Register on Friday, August 19, 2016.

The State of Montana has been working to update systems, policies and language to comply with the published rules.

Staff of the Programs Oversight Unit are working to get the new WIOA Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) up and running. They have been reaching out to training providers to encourage their participation in the ETPL. A full memo on the ETPL issues is attached for your review.

The WIOA Combined Plan Program Years 2016 – 2019 was conditionally approved by USDOL and WIOA partners. They
requested further information and clarification on some parts of our plan.

The WIOA Program Oversight Unit held a WIOA Technical Assistance Training (TAT) on August 23rd – 25th. The TAT brought together local partners from all around the state to work on how they will align their services at the MACo District level.

ATTACHMENTS

ETPL Memo