

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 22-07
	DATE December 21, 2007

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS

FROM: THOMAS M. DOWD /s/
Administrator
Office of Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Announcement of the Workforce Investment Act Non-Experimental Net Impact Evaluation

1. **Purpose.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is pleased to announce the commencement of a non-experimental net impact evaluation of the formula programs established under title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA). ETA has contracted with IMPAQ International, LLC (IMPAQ), of Columbia, Maryland to conduct the evaluation. The evaluation will focus on the Adult and Dislocated Worker formula programs. This evaluation will utilize a rigorous, non-experimental design to assess the impact of core and intensive services, and the incremental impact of WIA training on participant outcomes. As such, the evaluation will compare outcomes of WIA participants to the outcomes of similar individuals drawn from a comparison group. This 12-month project will utilize existing and newly-acquired administrative data from a representative sample of states. Throughout the life of the research effort, state workforce agencies, partners, and stakeholders will receive continuing updates on the study's progress.

2. **Research Goals.** The goals of this evaluation are to examine the net impact of the receipt of WIA services on program participants' future earnings and employment. The evaluation will provide net impacts of WIA by funding stream (Adult and Dislocated Worker programs). Within each funding stream, the evaluation will examine net impacts by subgroups.

3. **Research Tasks.** This evaluation involves comparing the outcomes of WIA participants to the outcomes of similar individuals drawn from a matched comparison group. Research tasks include data collection, identification of treatment and comparison groups, and data analysis. The administrative data used for this evaluation will include: 1) WIA Standardized Record Data (WIASRD), 2) Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records, 3) Wagner-Peyser and related job exchange data, 4) UI claims data, 5) WIA entry data, and 6) other administrative data related to participation in Federal and state programs.

4. **Action Requested.** This evaluation will require administrative data from at least 25 states to enable researchers to construct a nationally representative sample. IMPAQ will be contacting all states in writing to seek states' participation and use of states' administrative data in the evaluation. IMPAQ will follow the strictest state and Federal confidentiality requirements in its

collection and storage of state administrative data. States are requested to: 1) review and convey the information contained in this issuance to state workforce partners, as appropriate, 2) participate in the WIA Non-Experimental Net Impact Evaluation when contacted by IMPAQ, and 3) cooperate with IMPAQ in arranging for access to state administrative data as required for this research.

5. **Research Time Frame.** The period of performance for this research effort will be for 12 months beginning in November 2007. A final report is expected in November 2008.

6. **References.** P.L. 105-220, as amended: Workforce Investment Act of 1998

7. **Inquiries.** States seeking to participate or to obtain more information about this study may contact Kevin M. Culp, Federal Project Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration at (202) 693-3679, or culp.kevin@dol.gov.