January 30, 2015

Dear Applicant:

I am pleased to issue the Department’s FY 2015 Workplace Education Request for Proposals (RFP). This RFP addresses the ongoing demand from businesses, union organizations, and workers for on-site contextualized educational services for employees who are committed to improving their basic education skills.

The RFP refers to two discrete phases. Phase 1 involves three months of planning and requires conducting a Workplace Needs Analysis. Phase 2 requires the delivery of Workplace Education services consistent with the recommendations of the Phase 1 planning process and an on-site Planning and Evaluation Team to oversee program implementation.

Through this RFP, the Department will support twenty (20) planning grants up to $5,000 each to be awarded for the planning process in Phase 1. Additionally, a total of $500,000 is available for multi-year, Phase 2 grants. These will be awarded to successful Phase 1 grantees to implement the proposed Workplace Education program. Partnerships having completed a successful planning process are eligible for these multi-year implementation grants. The RFP and its companion document, the Massachusetts Guidelines for Effective Workplace Education Partnerships include detailed guidance that reflect lessons learned over the past 25 years that the Department has sponsored this very successful Workplace Education grant program. If you have any questions about this program, please contact Olivia Steele at osteele@doe.mass.edu. Should you succeed in obtaining one of the Workplace Education awards, you will join over one hundred partnerships that have found this program beneficial.

Workplace Education partnerships are essential to fostering the development of a competitive workforce.

Sincerely,

Jolanta Conway
Massachusetts ABE State Director