

ATTACHMENT H2

District of Columbia WIA Waiver Request

Statutory/Regulatory Provisions	Performance Measures for Workforce Investment Act Title 1
Citations	The Workforce Investment Act(WIA) and the Wagner-Peyser Act (WIA 189(i) (4), §129, §134, and §136; 20CFR WIA Final Rules§ 652.3 §661.400§ 661.410, and §666.120; and Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 17-05 issued February 17, 2006 and Training and Employment Guidance Letter 29-05 issued May 12, 2006
Entity	Department of Employment Services
Contact	Daryl G. Hardy, Administrative Officer Department of Employment Services Workforce Development Bureau 609 H Street, NE, Suite 535 Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 698-5146 daryl.g.hardy @ dc.gov
Mayor	Anthony Williams

The Statutory or regulatory requirements that are requested to be waived: The District of Columbia is seeking a waiver of Section 136(b) which defines the current WIA Title I performance measures. We are requesting that the District be allowed to replace the 17 measures (15 core and 2 customer satisfaction) with the Common Measures delineated in TEGL 17-05. Starting July 1, 2006, the District would be operating under nine (9) measures: Adult Entered Employment, Adult Retention, Adult Earning Change, Dislocated Worker Entered Employment, Dislocated Worker Retention, Dislocated Worker Earnings Change, Youth Placement in Employment or Education, Youth Attainment of a Degree or Certificate, and Youth Literacy and Numeracy Gains.

Actions that the State or local areas, as appropriate, have undertaken to remove State or local statutory or regulatory barriers:

The District of Columbia has taken considerable strides to remove barriers and streamline services to enhance operational collaboration of our workforce investment activities.

Actions include:

- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)-The District has signed MOUs with required and optional private and public sector partners who have positively affected our programs;
- Co-locating Public and Private Sector Partners- This offers customers a true one-stop experience with integrated and intensive service delivery, and

- Service integration- Integrates WIA, Unemployment Insurance, Wagner-Peyser, and veteran's services offered at our One-Stop Career Centers. These services are also offered on a smaller scale throughout the six satellite centers, one mobile van, and one affiliate center.

While these actions have momentous benefits, we believe that the waiver will allow us to continue to accelerate the benefits to our customers.

Describe the goals of the waiver and the expected programmatic outcomes if the request is granted: There are numerous benefits to granting the waiver request:

- Provides for a simplified and streamlined performance measurement system.
- Provides for integrated system-wide performance accountability to ensure successful integration of our Workforce Development Programs as we move toward common goals as well as a mechanism to begin the process of using the common performance measures across programs.
- Provides cohesion across workforce development programs.
- Reduces paperwork and labor cost associated with data collection.
- Provides for demand-driven performance outcomes.
- Provides clear and understandable information to Congressional and legislative leaders and the general public concerning the use of public funds and return on investment.
- Provides a more useful program management tool.
- Provides an opportunity for the District to better implement the Department of Labor's Youth Vision, which includes a youth program focused on out-of-school populations with increased accountability for employment and/or increased secondary and post-secondary education outcomes.

Description of the Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:

Approval of this waiver will positively impact all customers of the workforce investment system by providing accountability while improving program management and performance. This waiver will fully integrate and expand our initiatives in existing programs that will continue to streamline, strengthen and improve services to employers and residents of the District of Columbia.

Describe the process used to monitor the progress in implementing such a waiver, and the process by which notice and an opportunity to comment on such request has been provided to the local board:

The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES) is the state administrative entity for all federally funded programs including the Workforce Investment Act. The waiver enables the District the flexibility to implement a seamless delivery of services and to customize the planning and service delivery for applicable programs. The DOES will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver, through

a combination of performance reporting, evaluations, and discussions with stakeholders regarding our progress toward expected outcomes.

The District will oversee and evaluate effective approaches to identify and address any obstacles, if any, and review applicable policies and procedures and modify them accordingly.

The District will submit both an interim and a final report to the USDOL detailing the impact of this waiver.

Other Comments Provided

Consistent with the general waiver request, the District is adhering to publication requirements to insure the broadest participation possible, including informing appropriate partners and interested parties, such as labor, community based organizations and D.C. Workforce Investment Council. A public comment period was provided from May 25, 2006 through June 25, 2006.

In addition, the District has provided opportunities for comment and input on the waiver request, including:

- A 30 day posting of the proposed Waiver request on the Department's website (*dcnetworks.gov*)
- A press release for public comment and input
- Washington Post article for public review and input
- May 9, 2006 Executive Committee meeting with WIC Chairs