Five Things You Need to Know about WIOA

WE Global Network Convening

Panel on Serving Highly Skilled Immigrants

July 9, 2015
WIOA is a Substantial Federal Investment in Job Training & Education…

**Title I (workforce)**
- $2.62 billion in funding
- ~200,000 people served via job training
- Millions more provided job-search assistance

**Title II (adult education)**
- $700 million in funding
- ~1.6 million people served via classes

*Individuals eligible for WIOA services are typically low-income and/or have low basic skills in reading, math, or spoken English.*

www.nationalskillscoalition.org
... But Need is Far Greater than Capacity

- Results from OECD’s international Survey of Adult Skills show that **36 million Americans** ages 16-65 have low basic skills

- One-third (**12 million**) are immigrants

Learn more: www.piaacgateway.com
Immigrant Professionals *Can* Be Served Under WIOA

- Adult education – *if they have Limited English Proficiency*
- Workforce services – *if they are low income and/or meet other eligibility criteria*
Near-Term Opportunities

WIOA statewide plans are due to the federal government in March 2016.

• Ensure that WIOA plans fully document immigrant demographics and needs

• Analyze local demographics in comparison to WIOA participants

• Consider strategies for providing WIOA services to eligible immigrants (e.g. subcontracting)
To Pursue WIOA Funding, Learn How it Flows

Federal Appropriations

States
(departments of labor, education, etc.)

Community Colleges*

School Districts*

Community-Based Organizations*
(CBOs)

Local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs)

*Some states.
Learn More

- National Skills Coalition WIOA implementation resources:  
  www.nationalskillscoalition.org/state-policy/workforce-innovation-opportunity-act-implementation

  www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/webinars/wioa-an-opportunity-to-better-serve-immigrant-professionals
About National Skills Coalition:
Our Vision

We seek an America that grows its economy by investing in its people, so that every worker and every industry has the skills to compete and prosper.
Our Mission

• We **organize** broad-based coalitions seeking to raise the skills of America’s workers across a range of industries.

• We **advocate** for public policies that invest in what works, as informed by our members’ real-world expertise.

• And we **communicate** these goals to an American public seeking a vision for a strong U.S. economy that allows everyone to be part of its success.
Contact

Amanda Bergson-Shilcock
Senior Policy Analyst
215-285-2860
amandabs@nationalskillscoalition.org