



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR – WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY**  
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Call for Public Comment

The Department of Labor Workforce Investment Agency (DOL WIA) in collaboration with the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) invites the public to comment on the draft waiver request to the US Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration to increase the statutory requirements for the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) On-the-Job (OJT) reimbursement rates:

**The statutory and/or regulatory requirements the state would like to waive;**

In response to the unparalleled impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Labor Workforce Investment Agency (CNMI DOL WIA), as the administering entity for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Formula Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth funds, seeks a waiver on the statutory provision to reimburse fifty percent (50%) of an On-the-Job Training (OJT) participant wages for the extraordinary costs for training and supervision as prescribed at WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(H)(i) and 20 CFR 680.720 (b).

The CNMI DOL WIA requests a sliding scale reimbursement according to the proportion of the business entity as described at WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(H)(i) and 20 CFR 680.730 (a). Upon approval of the waiver, employers or small businesses with fifty (50) or less employees will be reimbursed up to ninety percent (90%), while larger businesses with fifty-one (51) and upward of two hundred and fifty (250) employees will be reimbursed seventy-five percent (75%) applicable to all OJT contracts as permitted by WIOA formula funds for Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth.

A full copy of the waiver request may be viewed at DOL website: [www.marianaslabor.net](http://www.marianaslabor.net) or emailed upon request.

The comment period for the draft waiver begins on Friday, December 11, 2020 and closes on Friday, December 24, 2020. Comments may be submitted electronically to [ftorres@dol.gov.mp](mailto:ftorres@dol.gov.mp) or [cnmiswdb@dol.gov.mp](mailto:cnmiswdb@dol.gov.mp), by fax to 664-1710, mailed to Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950, or in person at Bldg#1353 Mednilla Ave Capitol Hill.

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**\*DOL-WIA DIVISION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES**

**\*\*AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**