

## MEMO

**TO:** All Workshop Managers  
**FROM:** Dan Gier, Director, DESE-EESW  
**DATE:** April 24, 2017  
**RE:** WIOA Training

Based on recent comments made by the US Department of Justice in regards to WIOA and non-integrated settings,

*“The purpose of part 397 is to set for the requirements that designated state units and state and local educational agencies and **Employers** must satisfy to ensure that individuals with disabilities, especially youth with disabilities, have a meaningful opportunity to prepare for, obtain, maintain, advance in, or regain **competitive integrated employment**, including supported or customized employment.”*

*“In a manner that facilitates informed choice and decision making the certificate holder (Sheltered Workshops, CRPs) must inform the individual about the availability of self-advocacy, self-determination and peer mentoring training opportunities available in the local area that are not provided by the entity that employs the individual.”*

The US Department of Justice does not mention sub-minimum wage in their guidance, therefore our Legal Department is asking for clarification of the above guidance and comments.

Until clarification is issued, DESE is **Strongly** recommending and encouraging that any employee that is certified and being claimed on your State Aid, regardless of earnings below or above federal minimum wage, attend this round of MoVR Trainings. This is being done to assure “Choice” is clear and ever-present in the workshops and to have supporting documentation by a certified outside agency.