

# MINUTES

## GSETA Operations Committee

07/07/2025

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### Call to Order & Review of Minutes

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1. Fran Kuhn called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. The minutes were reviewed and a motion by Davidene Alpart motion, Howard Weiss, second. All approved.

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### Update: ITAs, Master Contracts, ITA Policies

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1. Fran asked John Bicica about the policy on ITA's – per Kendra Lee it is under review.
2. Some master agreements were sent to Paul Tattory. Is there any effort by the state to set up a master template for contracts. Per Kendra, there is currently not a requirement for a master agreement.
3. A master agreement is up to each local area. If an area has one, the fiscal auditor does look at them. Middlesex shares the master agreement with DOL when there are any changes.

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### ITA Waivers and Industry Valued Credential List (IVC)

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1. The Southern Region submitted a waiver regarding CNA training programs. Received feedback regarding the fact that each County still needs to submit 2 letters.
2. Passaic has been working on a waiver for CNA but has thus far only gotten one letter from an employer.
3. Beth Rodgers has submitted requests for waivers for several areas however she has not heard back.
4. Industry Valued Credentials (IVC) Kendra is not aware of an IVC list.
5. For purposes of OSOS validation, what does this look like? The validation team looks at this.

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### Literacy Service (Reduction in Title II)

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1. All funding for Title II has been frozen. As of July 1, there are no services being provided to Title II customers.
2. Are you looking at how to strategize delivery of services?
3. All awards of the Digital Equity grants will be posted on the NJDOL website.
4. All Title II activities were to stop as of July 1, 2025.
5. The OS Operator's role is to reach out to other resources in the community to make information known to the customers who need it.
6. Area's can utilize WIOA Title I funds for ABE services integrated with occupational training.
7. Monica Van Pelt asked can local areas use Title I funding to supplant Title II services? Sherie stated that if an IEP indicates that Title II services are not available ...
8. Any questions, please send them to Fran and an FAQ will be developed by the state.
9. Paul needs direction regarding extra youth and dislocated worker funding and needs help fast.
10. Literacy Innovations and Digital Equity funding should be used.
11. Allison Spinelli asked "if we were planning to go back out to procure additional WIOA career services with a focus on CASAS testing and ABE services. Are we required to competitively procure this, or can

we carry out a shared services agreement instead? “ Sherie stated she should defer to your local legal department.

12. No one knows what the federal government will do.
13. The NOA’s were given with a funding amount until September and another amount available after October 1<sup>st</sup> . Can we not spend any money beyond the amount awarded to September 30<sup>th</sup>? Fran will put in a FAQ
14. The Literacy Innovations money is locked and awarded.
15. Davidene stated that Title II customers are much lower in literacy levels than Title I. Additionally, the performance measures for WIOA will be impacted.
16. The Title II and Job Corps funding were paused.

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## WFNJ – Service Continuation for PY25

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1. Extensions were given until the end of September 2025.
2. Sherie stated to treat people as people and not programs. No one should be doing Gjobs. Co-enroll people.
3. You need the data from your partners. Pathways to Recovery partners, JOBS partners, etc. to get the co-enrollment information.
4. We have a lot of SNAP customers (They are not WFNJ). TANF population is lessening.
5. Alecia Eubanks (HR1 passing). The SNAP work requirements and ABAWD work requirements will be discussed at the GSETA conference. The biggest take away – work requirement is now up to 64 years of age (previously 55). There are other requirements that were passed with HR1 last weekend.
6. NJ is a voluntary state regarding the general work requirements for SNAP. There is a waiver for ABAWD, but the waiver requirements have changed.
7. There will be more to come. But changes are effective immediately.
8. CSSA (FKA CWA) Director meeting is this Friday. The IMUS meeting is next Friday.
9. The training at GSETA will be focused on the overall changes, the timing, what does it mean for you, and how you will need to respond, and what is going on with NJ’s waiver. If you would like to send questions to Alecia, please do.
10. Bobbi-Jo – Noone should be doing Gjobs? You should be treating people as people not programs/groups. There should not be groups for anyone.
11. Melissa Morillo - WFNJ Program Director - AC Boys and Girls Club - With SNAP clients required to fulfill work activity do they qualify for work related funds requests under WFNJ? This goes back to co-enrollment. If they are not a WFNJ client, they will need to use SNAP or WIOA Title I funding.
12. Victoria brought up her digital equity grant and the fact that her board is telling her they will need other activities to make up the hours.
13. Roberta Espinal, Passaic County– all programming is full and there is waitlist. For ABAWD clients they must be put into a program. There is no exception for full classes. All clients have a clock and need to be prioritized. NJ never changed the funding due to the waiver. Counties that had a waiver, funding never changed.
14. Monica Van Pelt – are there exceptions for individual ABAWD clients? The CSSA should be screening them for exceptions. There are also discretionary exemptions that can be used. However, NJ’s discretionary exemptions have dropped from 8% to 1%.

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## Program Success Stories – Open Share

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1. Atlantic County – Supported Work Program. It has benefited both TANF and GA customers. Atlantic is looking to expand this program. If interested in more information, reach out to Fran.
2. Fernandel Almonor – Held a recruitment event in retail last week. Please refer to the SOP sent out regarding these events. Fran will send out the SOP to the Operations committee.

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## Open Discussion & Updates

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1. Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.
2. Next meeting is on August 4, 2025 at 10:00 am.