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U.S. Department of Labor	Distribution:	Subject: Apprenticeship
Employment and Training	A-539 All Tech Hdqtrs	Quality Assurance
Administration, Office of	A-544 All Field Techs.	Assessment
Apprenticeship Services (OA)	A-547 SD+RD+SAA	
Washington, D.C. 20210		
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<u>PURPOSE</u>: To inform OA, State Apprenticeship Agencies' (SAA) staff, Registered Program Sponsors and other Registered Apprenticeship Partners of the revision of Circular 92-02 and the issuance of a revised Quality Assurance Assessment form.

BACKGROUND: The U.S. Department of Labor's, OA issued a final rule that updates Labor standards for the National Apprenticeship System effective December 29, 2008. §29.6 Program performance standards is a new section that focuses on quality and performance of registered programs. One of the tools and factors used to evaluate programs is Quality Assurance Assessments. The definition for Quality Assurance Assessment as defined in §29.2 means a comprehensive review conducted by a Registration Agency regarding all aspects of an apprenticeship program's performance, including but not limited to, determining if apprentices are receiving: on-the-job training in all phases of the apprenticeable occupation; scheduled wage increases consistent with the registered standards; related instruction through appropriate curriculum and delivery systems; and that the registration agency is receiving notification of all new registrations, cancellations, and completions as required in this part.

The Quality Assurance Assessment review has been revised to include reviews of provisionally registered programs. Provisional registration means the 1-year initial provisional approval of newly registered programs that meet the required standards for program registration, after which program approval may be made permanent, continued as provisional, or rescinded following a review by the Registration Agency, as provided for in the criteria described in §29.3(g) and (h).

The attached sample letters for both permanent and provisionally registered programs will provide conformity and consistency throughout the Program Performance Review process.

If you have any questions please contact Franchella Kendall at 202-693-3813.

<u>ACTION</u>: OA and SAA staff should familiarize themselves with this Circular and all attachments.

NOTE: This Circular is being sent via electronic mail.

Attachments

