

CHARLES D. BAKER GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 24, 2020

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR STANDARDS DIVISION OF APPRENTICE STANDARDS

ROSALIN ACOSTA SECRETARY

PATRICK MITCHELL DIRECTOR, APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION & WORK-BASED LEARNING

To: Registered Apprenticeship Sponsors, Partners and other Stakeholders

Re: COVID-19 Update

Due to the current public health crisis, the Division of Apprentice Standards (DAS) at 19 Staniford Street is currently closed to the public and will not be accepting documents in-person or by mail through April 3, pending further notice.

DAS is *only* accepting requests for Registered Apprenticeship programs, Apprentice Agreements, and other document submissions or requests via email or through existing online processes, including fees. For instructions on submitting documents to DAS online, <u>click here</u>. Please note there may be delays in processing requests at this time.

If you previously submitted documents in-person or by mail and you have not received a final response as of March 24, you may contact <u>apprenticeship@mass.gov</u> to request status. DAS will continue to process all documents submitted in any format prior to March 24. If your request is urgent, or you would like to expedite a response, you may be asked to submit documents in .pdf format via email to <u>apprenticeship@mass.gov</u>.

Please send general inquiries to <u>apprenticeship@mass.gov</u>. You may also contact DAS for specific inquiries and technical assistance related to documents submitted or active apprenticeship programs. For all customer service inquiries, including status of documents submitted, please contact Camille Pensavalli at <u>camille.pensavalli@mass.gov</u>. For all compliance and program related issues, please contact Celina Pendexter at <u>celina.pendexter@mass.gov</u>.

Relevant Policy Updates

The Division of Apprentice Standards (DAS) is currently reviewing potential emergency policies regarding the current expiration of Apprentice Identification Cards, the extension of Apprentice Agreements, and Related Training and Instruction (RTI) requirements. We are seeking your feedback regarding such policies in addition to general feedback of COVID-19 issues affecting apprentices, sponsors and others involved in Registered Apprenticeship in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Please submit any questions or comments to <u>patrick.mitchell@mass.gov</u>.

Additional Information

The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development sends daily emails and hosts weekly calls with the business community regarding COVID-19. If you would like to join, please respond to this email with subject line "EOHED email".

For questions regarding unemployment assistance, please visit: <u>www.mass.gov/dua</u>

- COVID-19 UI information: <u>https://www.mass.gov/alerts/important-unemployment-information</u>
- Join a DUA Town Hall: <u>https://www.mass.gov/forms/massachusetts-department-of-unemployment-assistance-dua-virtual-town-halls</u>

CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING • 19 STANIFORD STREET • 2nd FLOOR • BOSTON, MA 02114 TEL: 617-626-5409 • FAX: 617-626-5427 www.mass.gov/dols