



**United States Department of Education**  
**Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

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**Q: When will the final regulations for WIOA be published?**

The Departments of Labor and Education, in collaboration with other Federal partner agencies, published five Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRMs) in April 2015. In addition, the Departments and other Federal partner agencies published several proposed new Information Collection Requests (ICRs) in summer 2015 to inform stakeholders of new data elements that would need to be reported under WIOA. As a result of these publications, the Departments received thousands of public comments, all of which must be considered in the development of final rules and ICRs. The Federal agencies have been diligently working on the analysis of all comments in order to develop final regulations, ICRs, and policies that are consistent with the requirements of WIOA, as well as other authorizing laws for the affected programs. Given the complexity of these issues, the Departments are working toward making the final regulations publicly available in June 2016. The Departments intend to provide necessary information about the requirements imposed by WIOA and the forthcoming regulations as soon as possible through guidance, notification of information collection requirements, and technical assistance, and by making the regulations available on their websites when they are sent to the Federal Register.

**Q: When must States submit the first WIOA Unified or Combined State Plan?**

WIOA Sections 102(c)(1)(A) and 103(b)(1) require States to submit the initial Unified or Combined State Plan no later than 120 days prior to the commencement of the second full program year after the date of enactment (i.e., July 1, 2016), making the statutory submission date March 3, 2016. However, pursuant to the orderly transition authority in section 503 of WIOA, the Departments of Labor and Education will consider as timely an initial Unified or Combined State Plan that is submitted by April 1, 2016.