

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 24-12
	DATE March 1, 2013

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
NATIONAL FARMWORKER JOBS PROGRAM GRANTEES

FROM: JANE OATES /s/
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: 2013 National Monitor Advocate Training Sessions at the MAFO 2013 National Farmworker Conference

1. **Purpose.** To inform State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), SWA liaisons, and National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) grantees of the 2013 National Monitor Advocate Training Sessions, which will take place March 17-20, 2013, at the MAFO 2013 National Farmworker Conference in San Antonio, Texas.
2. **Background.** Program regulations at 20 CFR 653.108(k) require Monitor Advocates to meet frequently with representatives of the various farmworker organizations to better coordinate on improving the delivery of employment and training services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFW) through the American Job Center network (also known as the One-Stop Career Center system). The MAFO National Farmworker Conference provides a venue for MSFW Monitor Advocates and their staff to meet with these organizations, and for State Monitor Advocates to attend and receive trainings conducted by National and Regional Monitor Advocates pursuant to regulations at 20 CFR 653.108(e).
3. **Monitor Advocate Training.** ETA National and Regional Monitor Advocates meet at the MAFO National Farmworker Conference to conduct an annual training and provide technical assistance for all State Monitor Advocates, and to ensure continued compliance with program regulations. Accordingly, State Monitor Advocates are required to attend these training sessions, which will take place from March 17-20, 2013, concurrently with the MAFO National Farmworker Conference.

Both the MAFO conference and the training sessions will provide participants with the opportunity to establish ties that will strengthen partnerships and promote the integration of service delivery to MSFWs within the workforce system. The objectives of the training are to: (1) provide best practices to Monitor Advocates to improve services and performance; (2) better integrate services to MSFWs and agricultural employers provided by the public workforce system; (3) better coordinate the enforcement of farmworker regulations; (4) facilitate the exchange of information among farmworker service providers; and (5) enhance communication and cooperation between farmworker groups and State and Federal officials.

The Monitor Advocate training agenda includes the following workshops: (1) Pre-harvest session; (2) Agricultural Recruitment System; (3) National Agricultural Workers Survey; (4) working with Legal Aide and Wage and Hour representatives; and (5) outreach safety. The agenda will also include the introduction of four new computer-based training modules that include training on: (1) Outreach; (2) Business Services; (3) State Monitor Advocate Responsibilities; and (4) the Job Service Complaint System. A draft agenda and additional conference information is available at www.mafofarmworker.com.

4. **Arrangements.** The Monitor Advocate training sessions will begin on March 17, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT) and will continue until 2:00 p.m. CDT on March 20, 2013. The training will be held at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio, 123 Lasoya Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Information on hotel reservations can be found at www.mafofarmworker.com.

State Monitor Advocates will need to register via the MAFO website at: <http://www.mafofarmworker.com/>. MAFO has established \$280 as the conference registration fee for the State Monitor Advocates.

5. **Action Requested.** To comply with regulations set forth at 20 CFR 653.108(e), State Administrators are requested to allow State Monitor Advocates and other staff involved with farmworker-related services to attend the MAFO Conference and the Monitor Advocate training sessions.
6. **Inquiries.** Inquiries concerning this notice should be directed to either the ETA Regional Monitor Advocate serving your State or to Mr. Juan M. Regalado, ETA National Monitor Advocate, at NMA@dol.gov. A list of ETA Regional Monitor Advocates and the States they serve can be found at the following web link: http://www.doleta.gov/programs/pdf/MONITOR_ADVOCATE_NATIONAL_DIRECTORY_PY_2010.pdf.