TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 31-06
	DATE May 9, 2007

To: **ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES**

From: **MARIA K. FLYNN /s/**
             Administrator
             Office of Policy Development and Research

Subject: **Technology-Based Learning Regional Forums**

1. **Purpose.** To announce upcoming Technology-Based Learning Forums, during which ETA will share its Technology-Based Learning (TBL) Initiative vision, and explore the use, benefits, and challenges of technology-based learning in the workforce investment system to develop the talents of the American workforce in the 21st century global economy.

2. **Reference.** Workforce Investment Act of 1998; Technology-Based Learning Strategies Report

3. **Background.** Technology-based learning (TBL) can play a vital role in helping workers acquire the training they need to be successful in today's global economy and in increasing America's economic competitiveness and growth. The TBL Initiative seeks to increase the number of people trained by broadening the opportunities for skill and competency development made available through the use of technology-based learning (e-learning) methodologies. In addition, ETA is advancing the use of technology for training within the workforce investment system to help address the talent development needs in regional economies across the country. The goal is to use TBL or e-learning to move workers into high growth, high demand occupations and meet the needs of industry for skilled employees. ETA will conduct TBL Forums to share the vision of the TBL Initiative and to explore the use, benefits, and challenges of technology-based learning in the workforce investment system. Forum participants will include workforce investment system staff and partners such as education, economic development and business partners.

   A preliminary agenda for the forum is attached. Each forum will feature:

   - Presentations from ETA on its vision of the Technology-Based Learning Initiative
   - Overview of TBL (e-learning) Technologies
   - Panel discussion on TBL (e-learning) in the workforce investment system, featuring workforce investment system representatives from the Region
   - Panel discussion on barriers to and solutions for using e-learning

Input from these forums will be used by ETA to guide the development of TBL workforce policy.

4. **Forums.** Three in-person forums will be held between June and October 2007 as follows:

- Washington, DC on June 12 at the FDIC Training Center (3501 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22226) from 9:00am-3:00pm
- Kansas City, MO on July 17 at the Kansas City Convention Center (301 W 13th St, Kansas City, MO 64105) from 9:00am-12:00pm
- San Francisco, CA on September 12 at the San Francisco Federal Building Auditorium (90 Seventh Street, San Francisco, CA 94103) from 9:00am-3:00pm

5. **Registration.** Registration information for the in-person forums is available at: http://www.cvent.com/. In the top right corner, click on RSVP for an Event. The event code is: **5GNDSKLR96H**. If you have questions concerning the online registration system, please call Sandy Smith at Coffey Communications at: 301-907-0900 or ssmith@coffeycom.com.

6. **Action.** State Workforce Agencies and staff should share this information with local workforce boards and training provider partners, such as the adult education and community college systems.

7. **Inquiries.** Questions concerning this TEN may be directed to Heidi M. Casta at (202) 693-3567 or casta.heidi@dol.gov.

8. **Attachment.** Preliminary Agenda.

Attachment

Technology-Based Learning Forums

Arlington, VA: June 12, 2007
Kansas City, MO: July 17, 2007
San Francisco, CA: September 12, 2007

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00-9:30am **Registration**

9:30-9:45am **Welcome**
Introductions, Agenda Review, and Announcements

9:45–10:00am **ETA's Technology-Based Learning Initiative**
Heidi M. Casta

10:00-10:45am **Overview of Technologies**
Todd Yamamoto, Diane Walton

10:45-12:00pm **Technology-Based Learning (e-learning) and the Workforce Investment System Panel**
Facilitator: Heidi M. Casta
Panelists: Workforce System Representatives from the region
- What drove you to TBL (e-learning)?
- What are you doing?
- What is the system doing?

12:00-1:00pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00-3:00pm **Barriers/Solutions to TBL (e-learning)**
Facilitator: Todd Yamamoto and Diane Walton
Panelists: Workforce System Representatives from the region
- What were the main barriers to implementing TBL or e-learning efforts?
- How were the barriers/challenges solved?