

DATE: July 29, 2016
TO: All WIOA Sub recipients
FROM: Rogelio Valdez
SUBJECT: Youth Eligibility and Priority

Youth Eligibility and Priority

Reference: WIOA 134(c)(3)(E); NPRM 680.110, 680.120, 680.600, 680.610, 680.650
History: WDC-4-7-2016- WIOA#2
Purpose: Funding for career services and training services to individuals under the WIOA Youth program must be prioritized to recipients according to law and policy.

Youth Eligibility

Services to determine eligibility for WIOA participation are provided to individuals registered within IdahoWorks.

General WIOA Eligibility Requirements, must verify with documentation for all:

1. Verify birthdate/age
2. US work authorization
3. Selective Service
4. State of Idaho Residency

General Youth Program Eligibility Requirements

1. Between the ages of 16 and 24
2. Out-of-school, defined as not attending any secondary or postsecondary schools

Specific Youth Program Eligibility Requirements

Must provide documentation for one or more of the following:

1. School dropout
2. Subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
3. Homeless
4. Runaway
5. In or aged out of foster care system
6. Pregnant or parenting
7. Has a disability
8. Is basic skills deficient (or English language learner) with a high school diploma/equivalent and low-income
9. Low income individual requiring additional assistance, defined as:
 - a. Has been treated by a professional for mental health issues, including traumatic events, depression, or substance abuse related problems; OR
 - b. Has been or is a victim or abuse or resides in an abusive environment as documented by a licensed professional: OR
 - c. Has been unemployed for at least three of the last six months (not necessarily consecutive); OR
 - d. Has a family history of chronic unemployment (during the two years prior to application family members were unemployed longer than employed); OR
 - e. Limited English speaking or cultural displacement (e.g., refugees)

Youth Priority Service Groups

WIOA funding and services are not an entitlement to those eligible to participate in the program. The funds and services are intended to go to those who most need the assistance.

1. Veterans and eligible spouses receive priority for all Department of Labor-funded training programs, including WIOA programs.
2. Individuals in the following categories with receive priority service in the Idaho WIOA Youth program:
 - a. Low income youth involved with the juvenile justice system; OR
 - b. Low income youth exiting foster care; OR
 - c. Low income pregnant and parenting youth; OR
 - d. Low income youth with disabilities.
3. Another consideration for priority service is to have program enrollment and participation reflect the incidence of population for sex, race or ethnicity in the areas where programs operate.

Order of Selection for Receiving WIOA Youth Program Services

1. Veterans and eligible spouses within an Idaho Priority Youth category.
2. Other individuals within an Idaho Priority Youth category
3. Veterans and eligible spouses not within an Idaho Priority Youth category, but are underrepresented in program enrollment compared to the incidence of population.
4. Other individuals not within an Idaho Priority Youth category, but are underrepresented in program enrollment compared to the incidence of population.
5. Individuals referred by other one-stop partner programs
6. Individuals residing in rural counties.
7. Any other individual determined to be appropriate to receive services.

Additional detailed guidance will be on-going.

Questions may be directed to the WIOA/TAA Mailbox.