

U.S. Department of Labor



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Federal Reserve Bank
Boston and New York

December 10, 2015

WIOA Overview/Update

- President Barack Obama signed WIOA into law on July 22, 2014.
- Passed by Congress with wide bipartisan majority (the Senate voted 93-5 and the House of Representatives voted 415-6).
- Broad vision of workforce programs: reaffirms ongoing role of American Job Centers and also requires coordination and alignment of key employment, education, and training programs.
- Promotes program alignment at the Federal, State, local, and regional levels.
- In general, the Act takes effect on July 1, 2015, the first full program year after enactment, unless otherwise noted.
- Final Rules scheduled to be published in the Spring 2016.

WIOA - Vision

- Aligns with and complements the President's Vision for Job-Driven Workforce Development – prepare workers for 21st century jobs and ensure American businesses have skilled workers to be competitive in global economy.
- The Vice President issued a report, “Ready to Work: Job-Driven Training and American Opportunity,” based on his review of Federal job training programs on July 22, 2014
(http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/skills_report.pdf)
 - Stronger employer engagement
 - Sector Strategies
 - Earn-while-you-learn opportunities
 - Career Pathways
 - Greater accountability
 - Partnering



WIOA - Youth

- Focus on Out-of-School Youth
- Eligibility changes
 - Out-of-School Youth
- Work Experience is emphasized
- New elements to be offered to Youth



WIOA: Out-of-School Youth

- WIOA shifts the focus to serving Out-of-School (OSY) Youth.
- WIOA requires 75 percent of Youth funding be used for out-of-school youth.
 - The increased expenditures must be a minimum increase of 10 percent points compared to the previous year and no lower than a 50 percent OSY expenditure rate.
 - Local areas must spend a minimum percent of 75 percent of PY 2016/FY 2017 funds on OSY.

WIOA: Eligibility Changes

- Eligibility changes
 - Out-of-School Youth
 - 16 – 24 years old
 - 8 additional barriers
 - In-School Youth
 - 14 – 21 years old
 - Low income (including free lunch)
 - 6 additional barriers



WIOA: Work Experiences

- At least 20% of local Youth formula funds must be used for work experiences.
- Under WIOA, paid and unpaid work experiences that have as a component academic and occupational education may include the following four categories:
 - On the Job Training
 - Summer Employment/Year Round Employment
 - Internships and Job Shadowing
 - Pre-Apprenticeship Programs

WIOA: 14 Elements (9 existing)

■ Existing Elements:

- ✓ Tutoring, study skills training, instruction and evidence-based dropout prevention and recovery strategies that lead to completion of the requirements for a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent) or for a recognized post-secondary credential;
- ✓ Alternative secondary school services, or dropout recovery services, as appropriate;
- ✓ Paid and unpaid work experiences that have academic and occupational education as a component of the work experience;
- ✓ Occupational skill training;
- ✓ Leadership development opportunities;
- ✓ Supportive services;
- ✓ Adult mentoring;
- ✓ Follow-up services for not less than 12 months after the completion of participation; and
- ✓ Comprehensive guidance and counseling, which may include drug and alcohol abuse counseling, as well as referrals to counseling, as appropriate to the needs of the individual youth.

WIOA : 14 Elements (5 new)

- Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster
- **Financial literacy**
- Entrepreneurial skills training
- Services that provide labor market and employment information in the local area
- Activities that help youth transition to postsecondary education and training



Youth and Financial Literacy

- Embedded in WIOA
 - Local area activities
 - State set-aside funding
- CFPB and the National League of Cities
 - Pilot with 25 cities and workforce development boards

Technical Assistance Tools and Resources

- WIOA landing page
 - <http://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>
 - TEGL 23-14
 - TEGL 8-15
- ION (our TAT page)
 - <https://wioa.workforce3one.org/>
- ETA/Boston Regional Office
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