

Youth Barriers Policy

The Workforce Development Board (WDB) determined that utilizing the following definition for the In School Youth (ISY) eligibility criteria and Out of School Youth (OSY) eligibility criteria is needed to allow additional youth to qualify for WIOA services when the other criteria cannot be met for eligibility.

Economically disadvantaged ISY who are not in the following: basic skills deficient, English language learner, offender, homeless, a runaway, in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, pregnant/parenting, or disabled may qualify for services using the criterion of “Is an individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment”, one of the following conditions must be met:

1. Verification obtained from a professional source (doctor, teacher, vocational evaluator, etc.) stating that the youth requires additional assistance either related to education or employment, or
2. Documentation which verifies that the youth:
 - a) Has a poor work history (been fired from 1 or more jobs within the last six months, OR has a history of sporadic employment, such as “has held 3 or more jobs within the last 12 months, and is no longer employed, or
 - b) Has been actively seeking employment for the last 2 months, but remains unemployed.

No more than 5% of the In-School Youth may be made eligible under the “Needs Additional Assistance” criteria.

Economically disadvantaged OSY who are the recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and is not basic skills deficient or an English language learner may qualify for services using the criterion of “Is an individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment”, one of the following conditions must be met:

1. Verification obtained from a professional source (doctor, teacher, vocational evaluator, etc.) stating that the youth requires additional assistance either related to education or employment, or
2. Documentation which verifies that the youth:
 - a) Has a poor work history (been fired from 1 or more jobs within the last six months, OR has a history of sporadic employment, such as “has held 3 or more jobs within the last 12 months, and is no longer employed, or
 - b) Has been actively seeking employment for the last 2 months, but remains unemployed.