



YOUTH NEEDING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

PURPOSE

To provide guidance for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) youth programs in Jackson and Josephine Counties.

REQUIREMENTS

Per WIOA section 129 (1) (C) (iv) (VII), in each local area, not more than 5 percent of the in-school youth may use "Needs Additional Assistance" as a qualifying barrier for eligibility.

SCOPE

Youth Eligibility determination will be carried out by the youth services contractors and overseen and monitored by Rogue Workforce Partnership for the purpose of serving youth in our region to complete school and/or training, and to enter the workforce.

POLICY

Eligibility criteria for WIOA Youth Services consist of two primary components: 1) Income eligibility (as set by the Lower Living Standard Income Level, updated annually), and 2) Barriers to Employment. Barriers to employment are specifically listed as the following:

- School dropout
- Basic skills deficient
- Offender
- Homeless
- Pregnant or parenting
- Documented disability
- English language learner

In order to receive services under WIOA, a youth must be income eligible and possess one of the specific barriers listed above.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act allows local areas to provide services to youth who are low income, but do not meet one of the above-listed barriers, for up to 5% of the region's youth being served in a program year. These participants are considered "youth who need additional assistance" determined by the needs of youth within the region.

Rogue Workforce Partnership (RWP) has determined that this definition should indicate five additional barriers that are commonly encountered among at-risk youth in Southern Oregon, and is based on an assessment of ongoing needs of youth in our communities. RWP solicits



**ROGUE WORKFORCE
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Program Policy

Standard Operating Procedure

Effective Date: _____

New

Revised

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feedback from youth contractors to determine the additional barriers to be included in this definition. As needs change in our region, this policy will be updated to reflect those changes.

In addition to meeting the low income criteria, up to 5% of youth may qualify under one of the five criteria listed below.

Barrier	Description
Addiction	Substance addiction <u>and</u> either participating or soon to enter a rehabilitation/recovery program.
Limited or no work history	Limited or no work history after completing high school or GED.
Lack of Parental Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents who have limited or no English, who are unable to support their children's school success or entry into the workforce due to language and/or cultural challenges, <u>or</u> Parents who have a limited, or absence of, work history and cannot guide their children in job seeking activities.
Limited School Attendance	Missing significant time in school due to truancy, illness, family situation such as continual relocation, homelessness, caring for younger siblings, family emergency, or severe trauma within family.
Loss of Caregiver	Experiencing the loss of a primary caregiver due to death, divorce, incarceration, or extended military service.

APPROVED: _____
RWP Chair

DATE: 3-9-16