

## LOCAL DEFINITION OF NEEDS ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

### **Effective**

July 1, 2026

### **Purpose**

To establish specific items in a local area policy for the “requires additional assistance” eligibility barrier for youth.

### **Applies To**

1. Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board (STWDB)
2. Workforce Initiative Association (WIA)
3. All Area Subrecipients

### **References**

1. [ODJFS WIOAPL 15-13.1](#) WIOA Youth Program Eligibility
2. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

### **Related Documents**

Not applicable

### **Background**

Under WIOA eligibility policy, in order to provide services under the youth funding stream, the student must: 1) meet general eligibility requirements, 2) meet age requirements, 3) be low income, and 4) have one or more barriers to employment, which the WIOA eligibility policy defines barriers to employment for youth as:

1. Basic skills deficient;
2. School dropout;
3. Homeless, foster child, or runaway;
4. Pregnant or parenting;
5. Offender.

The local WDB must establish definitions and eligibility documentation requirements to verify that the local criteria have been met by youth who require additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment. The local area’s policy should be reasonable, quantifiable, and based on evidence that the specific characteristics of the youth identified in the policy objectively require additional assistance.

Of the total In-School-Youth (ISY) enrolled by a local area during a program year, no more than five percent may be individuals who require additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.

### **Definitions**

Not applicable

### **Policy & Procedure**

For In-School Youth, no more than 5% of ISY participants enrolled in a program year may qualify solely under the “additional assistance” criterion. Sufficient documentation is required to verify that a youth meets the locally defined “additional assistance” criteria. Documentation must align with WIOA

source-documentation requirements and be sufficient to support eligibility determinations during monitoring reviews.

If the youth is eligible according to income based on WIOA eligibility guidelines, the youth can be considered barriered if they meet either #1 or #2 below.

1. An individual who meets one of the following three situations:
  - a. Has not worked for at least 90 calendar days with one employer (excluding subsidized work)
  - b. Has left a job or cannot obtain employment for any of the following reasons: transportation, lack of child care, tardiness, absenteeism, or difficulty getting along with supervisor or coworkers
  - c. Has been fired from a job
  
2. Youth who are included in one or more of the following characteristics:
  - a. At risk of dropping out of school;
  - b. Court involved youth or at-risk of involvement;
  - c. Care giver status;
  - d. Disabled (including learning disability/IEP);
  - e. Youth who "aged out of foster care"
  - f. Migrant Seasonal Farmworker Youth
  - g. Limited English Proficiency
  - h. Substance Abuse
  - i. Lacks Transportation
  - j. Child of Incarcerated Parent

**Responsible Party**

Assistant Director, Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board

**Approving Authority**

Executive Director, Stark Tuscarawas Workforce Development Board

**Revision History**

07-01-2016