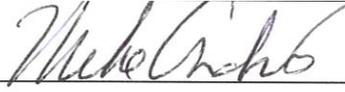
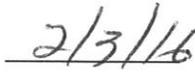


**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Labor and Workforce Development**

<b>Division:</b> Employment and Training Services	<b>Policy:</b> 07-503
<b>Subject:</b> High Concentration of Eligible Youth	<b>Pages:</b> 4
<b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Public Law 113-128</a> <a href="#">Federal Register Proposed Rules, Vol 80, No 73, Section 682.200(k)</a> ; <a href="#">WIOA Youth Eligibility Policy 07-502</a>	<b>Effective:</b> 2/3/2016
<b>Approved:</b>  Mike Andrews, Director	 Date

**1. Parties Affected**

This policy applies to applicants of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) High Concentration Eligible Youth (HCY) funds issued by the Division of Employment and Training Services (DETS) and DETS staff.

**2. Background**

WIOA Title 1 Subtitle B, Chapter 2, Section 129 (b) (1) (F) requires the state provide additional assistance to local workforce development areas (local area) that have a high concentration of eligible youth to ensure a transition to education or unsubsidized employment. WIOA Statewide Activities funds are used for projects that meet this requirement. The state has one designated local area consisting of the entire state. Youth program grantees provide specific employment and training services consisting of 14 basic elements as outlined in WIOA, in various locations across the state.

**3. Policy**

Statewide Activities funds shall be used to provide opportunities to assist grantees serving youth in the local area by funding innovative workforce development projects that strengthen the workforce system and foster creative solutions and best practices that address youth barriers to employment and training.

HCY projects shall be solicited via a Request for Grant Application (RGA) published by the DETS, when funds are available to deliver such projects. Available WIOA Statewide Activity funds for HCY projects shall be determined annually by the DETS Director.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program  
 Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities

Projects shall focus on out-of-school youth, but will not exclude in-school youth from participating in HCY projects.

HCY projects may vary based on Department workforce development priorities, the needs of the location being served, employer needs, and or employment projections based on market analysis. Project types will be clearly identified within the published RGA.

#### 4. Definitions

- a) **Eligible youth** means an individual who meets the in school or out of school youth definition.
- b) **In-school youth** means a youth who is: age 14-21 (unless an individual with a disability who is attending school under State law); attending school; low-income; and meets one or more of the following barriers:
  - **basic skills deficient** means an individual that has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test or a comparable score on a criterion-referenced test;
  - **an English language learner** - is a person who is learning the English language in addition to his or her native language;
  - **an individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system** - an individual who is or has been subject to any stage of the criminal justice process resulting from a record of arrest or conviction.
  - **homeless, a runaway, or in foster care** - homeless means an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or who has a primary nighttime residence that is:
    - a. A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
    - b. An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
    - c. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.A runaway youth is an individual under 18 years of age who absents him or herself from home or place of legal residence without the permission of parents or legal guardian. A youth in foster care is an individual where there is a court order in existence removing the youth from the custody of the parent(s) and specifying a managing conservator exists and state or local government payments are made to the conservator;
  - **pregnant, or parenting** - an individual who is the parent of a child or soon to be a parent;
  - **an individual with a disability** –means an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life

activities of such individual, has a record of such an impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

- **an individual who requires additional assistance** to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment;
- c) **Local Area**, for the purpose of this policy shall mean the entirety of the state;
- d) **Low Income** means an individual who:
- i. Receives or is a member of a family that receives cash payments under a federal, state or local income based public assistance program;
  - ii. Received an income or is a member of a family that received a total family income, for the 6 month period prior to application for the program involved (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments described in (i) above), and old-age and survivors insurance benefits received under section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.) that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of:
    - a. The poverty line, for an equivalent period (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-research>); or
    - b. 70 percent of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL), for an equivalent period (<https://www.doleta.gov/llsil/2015/>).
  - iii. Is a member or a household that receives (or has been determined within the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved to be eligible to receive) food stamps pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011et seq.);
  - iv. Qualifies as a homeless individual, as defined in subsections (a) and (c) of section 103 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.11302);
  - v. Is a foster child on behalf of whom state or local government payments are made; or
  - vi. In cases permitted by regulations promulgated by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, is an individual with a disability whose own income meets the requirements of a program described in (i) or (ii) above, but is a member of a family whose income does not meet such requirement.
- e) **Out-of-school youth** means a youth who is Age 16-24; not attending any school; and meets one or more of the following barriers:
- A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
  - A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its equivalent who is:
    - Low-income; and
    - Basic skills deficient or an English language learner

- An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
- A homeless individual, runaway, in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677), or in an out-of-home placement
- An individual who is pregnant or parenting
- A youth who is an individual with a disability
- A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.