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Supportive Services Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for supportive services provided to participants in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA) Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs.

Background

Funds allocated to a local area may be used to provide supportive services to adults and dislocated workers who:

- Are participating in programs with activities authorized in WIOA Section 134(c)(1)(A)(ii) or WIOA Section 134(c)(1(A)(iii);
- Have exited and need post-program support services as follow-up (for up to 12 months after exit); and
- Are unable to obtain such supportive services through other programs providing such services

Policy & Instructions

A. Supportive Services

Supportive services may be made available to adults or dislocated workers participating in career or training services that is unable to obtain supportive services through other programs providing such services. The supportive services must be necessary to enable the individual to participate in career services or training activities. Supportive services for youth are services that enable an individual to participate in WIOA activities.

Supportive services may include, but are not limited to:

- Linkages to community services
- Assistance with transportation
- Assistance with child care and dependent care
- Assistance with housing
- Needs-related payments
- Assistance with educational testing
- Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities
- Legal aid services
- Referrals to health care
- Assistance with uniforms or other appropriate work attire and work-related tools, including such items as eyeglasses and protective eye gear
- Assistance with books, fees, school supplies, and other necessary items for students enrolled in postsecondary education classes
- Payments and fees for employment and training-related applications, tests, and certifications

The level of a needs-related payment made to a dislocated worker shall not exceed the greater of:

- 1) The applicable weekly level of unemployment insurance compensation for participants who were eligible for unemployment insurance compensation as a result of a qualifying dislocation; or
- 2) The poverty level for an equivalent period, for participants who did not qualify for unemployment compensation as a result of a qualifying layoff. The weekly payment level must be adjusted to reflect changes in total family income, as determined by the NMTWB.

C. Priority of Service

Participants in WIOA programs who face significant barriers to employment — such as recipients of public assistance, low-income individuals, or individuals who are basic skills deficient _should be given service according to their level of need. Please refer to the TDLWD's Priority of Service Guidance concerning the order of service delivery which can be accessed at: https://www.tn.gov/workforce/contact-the-department0/boards---commissions/boards---commissions-redirect/state-workforce-development-board/wioatechnicalassistance.

D. Duplication of Services

Funds for supportive services should be monitored to ensure that they are spent in a manner that avoids redundancy. Please refer to the TDLWD's Co-Enrollment of American Job Center Customers Policy for more information concerning co-enrollment of participants in multiple programs and best practices to leverage resources for maximum benefit. This document can be accessed at https://www.tn.gov/workforce/contact-the-department0/boards---commissions/boards---commissions-redirect/state-workforce-development-board/wioatechnicalassistance.

References

WIOA Section 3(59); WIOA Section 133; WIOA Section 134(c)(3); 20 CFR 680.900 through 680.970; 20 CFR 681.570; TEGL 19-16; Workforce Services Guidance – LWDA Supportive Services Policy Update Requirements - WIOA

Authorized by:		Approved by:	
Marla Rye, Executive Director	Ca/10/20 Date	John Zobl, Chairman	Date