



Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program

What Is the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program?

Helping the emerging workforce prepare for and find meaningful employment is key to Ohio's economic success, and to breaking the cycle of poverty for thousands of Ohioans.

To address this challenge, the state of Ohio has created new framework for serving low-income Ohioans ages 16 to 24, through an integrated intervention program that combines the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program. Designed to assist one of Ohio's most vulnerable populations, this *new way to work* is titled the **Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP)**.

CCMEP provides employment and training services to eligible, low-income individuals based on a comprehensive assessment of employment and training needs, as well as a basic skills assessment. Participants are provided services to support goals outlined in their individual opportunity plan, which may include support to obtain a high school diploma, job placement, work experience, and other supportive services such as child care and transportation.

Who is eligible?

Effective July 1, 2016, individual's served by TANF and the WIOA Youth programs will be served through CCMEP as a single population under a consolidated system of service delivery.

The following individuals ages 16 to 24 are required to participate in CCMEP:

- Low-income in-school and out of school youth considered to have a barrier to employment and registered for a WIOA program.
- Participants in the Ohio Works First (OWF) program who are work eligible.

In addition, the following individual's ages 16 to 24 may volunteer to participate in CCMEP:

- Participants in the OWF program who are not work eligible.
- Individuals receiving benefits or services through the prevention, retention, and contingency (PRC) program, within 30 days of receiving a benefit.

What services are available?

The program offers a range of services to help individuals achieve goals related to obtaining employment, increased earnings and/or obtainment of a certificate or credential. These include:

- Tutoring or study skills training;

- Alternative secondary school services, or dropout recovery services;
- Paid and unpaid work experiences (including summer employment opportunities, pre-apprenticeship programs, internships and job shadowing, and on-the-job training opportunities);
- Occupational skills training;
- Education offered concurrently with workforce preparation activities;
- Leadership development opportunities;
- Adult mentoring;
- Entrepreneurial skills training;
- Financial literacy education;
- Comprehensive guidance and counseling;
- Labor market and employment information;
- Activities to prepare youth to transition to post-secondary education and training; and
- Supportive services including access to drug and alcohol abuse counseling, health care, transportation, child care, housing, uniforms and work-related tools, educational testing and reasonable accommodations for youth with disabilities.

Keys to Success

CCMEP's success is based on the customer's active participation in the program, as well as regular, meaningful engagement by case managers. Individuals participating in CCMEP are required to commit to participating in activities outlined in their individual opportunity plan for a minimum of 20 hours per week. CCMEP case managers are required to engage with participants at least every 30 days, or if a participant is receiving intensive case management, at least every 14 days.

When do participants complete the program?

A participant may be considered to have completed the program when they have obtained employment, successfully entered post-secondary education, enlisted in the military, or been awarded social security disability insurance and applied for services with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities. A participant may be required to leave the program if they repeatedly fail to meet commitments outlined in their individual opportunity plan.

Follow-Up Services

In order to support their success and stability, participants exiting the program will receive follow-up services for a minimum of 12 months. Follow-up services may include leadership development, assistance addressing work-related problems, mentoring, or work-related peer support groups.

How can I access CCMEP?

Each county has a designated "lead agency" that is responsible for managing CCMEP. Through this agency participants will access the help they need to achieve economic self-sufficiency. A list of county lead agency contacts is available at: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/owd/CCMEP/docs/County-Lead-Agency-List.stm>