

Stimulus Youth Programs – A Brief Overview

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Emerging Workforce Committee

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The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)



- Intended to preserve and create jobs to promote the nation's economic recovery
- Workforce system will play a vital role in America's economic recovery
- Implement expeditiously, effectively with ***full transparency and accountability***
- Recovery Act allows “flexibility” to provide services to individuals who are most impacted in a responsive manner

General Policy Guidelines – TEGGL 14-08

- Timely spending of funds and implementation of activities
- Increasing workforce system capacity and service levels
- Using data and workforce information to guide strategic planning and service delivery



Key Recovery Act Concepts

- Emphasis on serving low-income, displaced and under-skilled adults and disconnected youth
- Strong focus on “Green” job placements and work experiences
- Program Performance and Reporting – streamlining data collection of information to show measurable program output

Youth Stimulus Program Goals

- Allowable Activities – “any youth activities under WIA are allowable unless otherwise stated” in TEGL – 14-08
- Focus on summer employment, but not limited to summer; work experiences for youth
- Developing youth work readiness skills
- Expose youth to opportunities in “green” educational and career pathways

Stimulus Youth Funds and Duration

- Funding

- **\$56,158,510 million** – is Ohio's share out of the 1.2 billion youth stimulus funds

- Program Time Period

- Summer Employment – May 1 - September 30, 2009
- Youth Work Experiences throughout the year - May 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 (possible extension to include a 2nd summer)

Significant Differences from WIA Youth

- Age Limit Increase

- 14 – 24 (age limit increased from 21 to 24)

- Performance Measures

- Only indicator to assess the effectiveness of summer employment will be the “work readiness” indicator (can be defined at the state level)
- Youth enrolled for the “summer” only period will not be counted in any other performance measures



Factors Influencing Policy

- Eligibility – All WIA youth eligibility requirements currently apply including income; exception is the increase in age limit to 24
- Reporting – Feds want to see funds being expended as well as “youth” being served
- Program Focus – Local areas have flexibility to determine what elements they want to provide to youth
- Performance – All youth enrolled in summer employment only will be excluded from other measures – this enables local areas to be more flexible in enrolling “youth”

Technical Assistance to Local Areas

- Training by Office of Workforce Development
 - Stimulus Youth Training – **April 8th & April 9th**
 - Economic Stimulus Training – **April 13th & April 14th** (via video conference); National Speaker John Chamberlin is the trainer for these sessions
- U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration is offering a series of webinars

Strategies to Assist Local Areas

- Retroactive funding to allow areas to conduct outreach and recruitment of eligible youth ASAP
- Establish employer relationships and develop database of worksites – (i.e. both private and public work sites permitted)
- Delivery Method Flexibility - Provide services in-house or sub-contract program delivery
- Potential waivers to allow even more flexibility for local areas, such as procurement, extension of summer employment, selecting providers, eligibility, etc.

Contact Information

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