

## WIOA Youth Survey Results

A WIOA Youth Survey was conducted to learn more about how the new WIOA Youth Provisions will affect youth programming.

The survey was sent to LWIB Directors, OSCC Directors and Youth Practitioners in all 16 local workforce investment areas.

The following is a summary of the responses from the survey.

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**1. Does your local area have a strategy in place to ensure that 75% of funds are spent on out-of-school youth?**

54.55% Yes

9.09% No

36.36% In the Planning Process

**What guidance would help you transition to the mandatory requirement of providing 75% Out-Of-School youth?**

Guidance requested:

- Time line to exit WIA In and Out of School Youth.
- Guidance with converting in-school vendors to out-of-school vendors.
- Guidance on spending 75% OSY funds with lack of vendors or high performing vendors.
- Options for operating OSY programming in house.
- Guidance on the State/Federal mandated time frame to procure 75% OSY requirement for FY2016 to FY 2017.
- Best practices to expand services to required 75% OSY.
- Guidance for expenditures for youth transitioning from in-school services.
- Outreach and recruitment for OSY.

**2. Does your local area have a strategy in place to provide Work-Based Experiences for ISY and OSY?**

40.91% Yes

18.18% No

40.91% In Planning Process

Description of Work-Based Experience Strategies:

- Career Exploration programs.
- Partnerships with employers and worksites.
- WIA Youth Providers provide work-based experiences.
- Internships

**3. Does your local area have a strategy to offer career pathways?**

40.91% Yes

18.18% No

40.91% In the Planning Process

Description of Career Pathways:

- Partnerships with Community Colleges for career pathways in health care and manufacturing.
- Partnership with Youthbuild for construction.
- KeyTrain/Work Keys assessment to identify career pathways.

**4. Does your local area experience challenges in providing programs or services to youth with disabilities?**

42.86% Yes

57.14% No

Description of challenges is serving youth with disabilities:

- Challenge in diagnosing disabilities and how to best serve those youth with limited funds.
- Testing accommodations.
- Finding employment opportunities for youth with disabilities.
- Guidance on meeting performance measures as it relates to youth with disabilities.
- Partnering with agencies that provide services to youth with disabilities.
- Guidance needed on procuring services for youth with disabilities.

**5. What type of guidance would you like to have to help you meet the WIOA performance measures?**

Guidance Requested:

- Definition of “Credential “
- Definition of “In Program Skills Gain”
- Definition of “Effectiveness to Serving Employers”
- Request for real time data – performance results are not released in time to help plan and manage performance.
- Information on how to transition in-school youth to out-of-school youth without failing performance measures.
- Follow-up is challenging for mobile youth.
- Format to share best practices in all measures.
- Setting realistic local performance goals.
- Strategies for maximizing results.
- Technical assistance for entire system structure and procurement.

**6. What opportunities or challenges do you see on serving out-of-school youth up to age 24?**

**Challenges:**

- Significant barriers to employment.
- Difficult to run programs with a wide youth age range.
- Providing adult learning techniques to older youth rather than a positive youth development approach.
- Develop policy locally around how to manage to age difference between younger and older youth.
- Needing specific programs based on the age of youth – for example there is an 8 year difference between a 16 year old and a 24 year old.
- Costly to set up separate classrooms/accommodations to serve older youth.

- Tailoring services to set up programming for such an extensive age range will be costly.
- Younger youth may be squeezed out of the system as providers/employers see older youth as more mature/ desirable to work with.

**Opportunities:**

- Older youth are more likely to know what they are interested in and less likely to change their mind and are more mature.
- Working with more youth who have job skills will be easier to place.
- Widens the partnership with Adult One Stop Career Centers.
- Save some Title I funds to serve older youth and expand the age range of youth to serve.

**7. Does your local area have a defined “High Poverty” area?**

58.82% Yes

41.81% No

Locally defined High Poverty areas Include:

- Enterprise Zone
- Pockets of high poverty areas in Gateway Cities
- Low Income Communities
- Census Tract

**8. Has your local area implemented pay for performance contracts and/or contracts with higher Education Institutions?**

29.41% Yes

70.59% No

Comments:

- Provide clarity on “direct” contracts
- Experience with performance based and direct contracts with DTA CIES.
- Experience with performance based and direct contracts but not with youth.

**9. Is your local area currently offering any of the new service elements?**

94.12% Yes

5.88% No

Comments:

- The majority of the local areas are providing the new service elements either through existing WIA service providers or through Career Centers.
- The Entrepreneurial Skills service element has not been offered to youth as frequently as the other service elements.

