

Services that Provide Labor Market Information

WIOA YOUTH PROGRAM ELEMENT

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program includes 14 program elements, which are required to be made available in each local area. The program elements outline a vision for supporting youth and young adults through an integrated service delivery system. This brief includes related information in the Act, the regulations, and guidance for this program element.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Section 129 (c)(2)(M): services that provide labor market and employment information about in-demand industry sectors or occupations available in the local area, such as career awareness, career counseling, and career exploration services.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Relevant Regulations

This program element at [20 CFR § 681.460 \(a\)\(13\)](#) was not further articulated in the final rule.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Relevant Guidance

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER No. 21-16 | U.S. Department of Labor

Program Element 13: Services that provide labor market information

Under [20 CFR § 681.460 \(a\)\(13\)](#), this element includes “services that provide labor market and employment information about in-demand industry sectors or occupations available in the local area, such as career awareness, career counseling, and career exploration services.” This element is not further described in the Youth section of the final rule; however, the Wagner-Peyser regulation at [20 CFR § 651.10](#) provides additional information about this element under the definition of workforce and labor market information. That section defines workforce and labor market information as “the body of knowledge that describes the relationship between labor demand and supply.” Numerous tools and applications that are user-friendly exist, which can be used to provide labor market and career information, as appropriate to each youth. These labor market information (LMI) tools can be used to help youth and young adults to make appropriate decisions about education and careers. LMI identifies in-demand industries and occupations and employment opportunities; and, provides knowledge of job market expectations including education and skills requirements and potential earnings. LMI tools also



can aid in facilitating youth awareness of the career fields that are likely to provide long-term employment and earnings in local labor markets.

WIOA youth programs and providers should become familiar with state and federal LMI data and LMI tools, which are provided for free by agencies, in order to share relevant LMI with youth. Providing such readily available online services can be accomplished by connecting the youth with American Job Centers and other entities that have career exploration tools, ability and interest inventories, and provide related employment services. DOL electronic tools particularly relevant to youth include My Next Move and Get My Future. In addition to connecting youth to self-service LMI tools, it is important for youth providers to share and discuss state and local LMI with youth participants.

In general, career awareness begins the process of developing knowledge of the variety of careers and occupations available, their skill requirements, working conditions and training prerequisites, and job opportunities across a wide range of industry sectors. The process in which youth choose an educational path and training or a job which fits their interests, skills and abilities can be described as career exploration. Career counseling or guidance provides advice and support in making decisions about what career paths to take. Career counseling services may include providing information about resume preparation, interview skills, potential opportunities for job shadowing, and the long-term benefits of postsecondary education and training (e.g., increased earning power and career mobility).

Resources

Career Exploration

- [CareerOneStop: Get My Future](#)
- [My Next Move](#)
- [O*NET Resource Center](#)

For additional resources on the program element, please visit: [WorkforceGPS - Services that Provide Labor Market Information](#).

