

**DATE:** December 9, 2015

**WIOAB 09-15**

**TO:** All WIA Sub recipients

**FROM:** Marsha Wright, Workforce Bureau Chief



**SUBJECT:** In-School Youth Transition under Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act's (WIOA) directives, states must ensure that a minimum of 75 percent of a state's youth funding allocation be applied towards serving out-of-school youth. The state Youth Committee reviewed extensive amounts of Idaho demographic data, input from other service providers across the state and the national strategic direction to serve those youth most in need. Based upon this information, the Youth Committee recommended the state WIOA youth program solely focus on serving out-of-school youth. This recommendation was approved by the Workforce Development Council. As a result, effective July 1, 2016, the state's WIOA youth program will only enroll out-of-school youth. The Youth Committee also recommended, and the Council approved, priority of service for low-income youth that are: involved in the juvenile justice system; aging out of foster care; pregnant and parenting; and, those with disabilities. In addition, participation in program services must reflect the incidence of population in service delivery areas.

The Council plans to oversee procurement/selection of WIOA youth providers early in 2016 to ensure completion of the process before current WIOA contracts for youth services expire on June 30, 2016. This WIAOB provides preliminary details regarding the closeout process for In-School youth programs across the state.

### **Transitioning Youth for Ongoing Services**

Effective July 1, 2016, all active In-School youth who do not meet the criteria of the state's new focus on out-of-school youth will be transferred to the contracted youth provider to ensure completion of youth services as noted in each individual's WIA plan. State WIOA staff will work with current and future providers to identify those youth which are appropriate for transfer and continuation of service as in-school youth. In-school youth enrollments after this date will no longer be allowed.

More specific detail on this transition and the potential transfer of youth participants will be provided closer to the beginning of PY16. However, WIOA youth program staff should keep in mind that enrollment of in-school youth should be limited through June 30, 2016 to sync with the Workforce Development Council's directive of only serving out-of-school youth. WIOA youth program staff are encouraged to re-engage with their community organizations to inform them of the planned changes to the WIOA Youth program and to identify alternative resources to offer support for in-school youth.

Questions may be directed to the WIOA/TAA Mailbox.