

TRANSMITTAL #2

MEMORANDUM

December 2, 2015

TO: Youth Committee
FROM: Susan Simmons, Deputy Director 
SUBJECT: Availability of Youth Elements

ACTION REQUESTED: Determine whether to procure or include as part of WIOA Youth Service Delivery

BACKGROUND:

During the previous Youth Committee meeting, the committee reviewed information regarding the availability of services to address the 14 youth elements that WIOA requires states make available to eligible youth if they need the service. The council determined that approximately half of these elements must be included as part of its youth service design. The remaining elements would be accessed through local providers offering these services at no cost to eligible youth.

Several committee members had questions regarding the information about several of the elements' availability throughout the state. These services are: financial literacy education; entrepreneurial skills training; and transition preparation activities. In each instance, these services were available in a majority of the communities, some in a limited capacity. Committee members asked Idaho Department of Labor staff to investigate if these services were already available in some capacity.

Upon review, financial literacy training was found available through several online resources, which is recognized by WIOA as a valuable virtual service, designed to meet the needs of WIOA participants over time. Examples of these virtual services include:

Wells Fargo – "*Hands on Banking Program for Youth Adults*" which is designed to help the user take charge of their finances and reach their goals, whether it is to build credit, track investments, own a small business, shop for a loan, buy a car/home or simply open a bank account. <http://www.handsonbanking.org/en/>

University of Idaho Extension Offices - "*Credit Cents: Making Sense of Credit, Debt and Identity Theft*" which highlights consumer credit, acceptable levels of debt, credit scores,

reports, and history. It also covers how to avoid debt and identity theft. <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edComm/detail.asp?IDnum=1248>

Bank of America – “**Better Money Habits**” was developed in partnership with the Khan Academy to help user increase their financial abilities with a variety of options and specific goals rather than a full curriculum. <https://www.bettermoneyhabits.com/index.html>

Idaho Career Information System – “**Reality Check**” helps youth determine their anticipated lifestyle costs. https://idcis.intocareers.org/realitycheck/RC_introduction.aspx

Entrepreneurial skills training is another element that has extensive online resources, also available at no cost to users. This allows the user to complete training at their own pace, which is very helpful in reaching the youth of today. Examples of these resources include:

Small Business Administration – The SBA has a curriculum geared towards youth with business in mind, called Millennial Entrepreneurs. It contains several free online courses targeting business topics, including “**The Youth Entrepreneurs Essential Guide to Starting a Business**” video for youth interested in business. <https://www.sba.gov/tools/sba-learning-center/training/young-entrepreneurs>

In October’s Youth Committee meeting, Sara Scudder, administrator of the state Career Information System (CIS), noted that the online CIS program contained an entrepreneurial module targeting youth. The committee requested she follow up with information about the module. Below are the links to an assessment form and the training module contained in the system.

Entrepreneurial Career Assessment Form –
<https://idcis.intocareers.org/entquiz/EntQuizIntro.aspx>

Self-Employment Module -
<https://idcis.intocareers.org/ViewInfo.aspx?SourceState=ID&FileID=Own&FileNum=140100&TopicID=43>

When working with WIOA youth prior to partaking of post-secondary training or education, WIOA providers undertake several activities with the youth to prepare them. Although these preparatory activities will not ensure successful completion of training, they assist the youth focus and understand what is ahead of him or her. After reviewing the element with the original survey respondents, its wording may have been somewhat unclear. Offices responding that only limited opportunities were available were the smaller, more rural locations. Once explained in more detailed, respondents stated that these activities did take place prior to training or education.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend the committee consider the availability of these services readily accessible via online means. The examples listed above should not be thought of as the only resources to meet this need. Transition activities should be considered inherently part of the process of working with youth and readily available.

Contacts:	Primary:	Rico Barrera	(208) 332-3570, ext. 3316
	Secondary:	Marsha Wright	(208) 332-3570, ext. 3696