



Higher Education Coordinating Commission Office of Workforce Investments Policy	
Subject: Basic Skills Deficient	
Focus:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WIOA Title I <input type="checkbox"/> National DWG <input type="checkbox"/> State Grants <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Publish Date: 05/03/2021	<input type="checkbox"/> New Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised Policy

Overview

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provides options for determining a participant's basic skill level for use in the development of service strategies and for inclusion in Adult priority of service.

Policy Statement

WIOA Section 3(5) defines basic skills deficient as:

- A youth that has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test.

or

- A youth or adult that is unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family, or in society.

The local board must establish a policy that provides criteria which WIOA Adult programs will use to determine if a participant does not have the levels necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family, or in society.

The state defers the option to the local board to determine if both elements of the definition will be used for the WIOA Youth program. If the local board chooses to establish a policy on level necessary to function for youth, it must establish its youth policy and include it in the local plan.

Effective Date

May 3, 2021

Required Action

LWDB staff must develop policy to address these requirements. Where criteria are established for the WIOA Youth program, it must be included in the local plan that is adopted by the Board.

Contact

Questions are to be referred to hecc.owi-workforce-policy@hecc.oregon.gov.

References

- WIOA Regulations 20 CFR 681.290 and 680.600.
- Replaces OWI Policy Youth Basic Skills Deficient.