



## Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Policy

Subject: Youth Basic Skills Deficient

Publish Date: 4/15/2020

New Policy  Revised Policy

### Overview

The State defers creation of standards to determine when youth participants are basic skills deficient in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title IB Youth programs to the Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB).

### Policy Statement

WIOA Section 3(5)(B) 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 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 State requires that LWDBs develop a policy and criteria for determining basic skill levels at the point of eligibility determination/enrollment into WIOA Youth programs to meet the following conditions:

- In assessing basic skills, local programs must use assessment instruments that are valid and appropriate for the target population and must provide reasonable accommodation in the assessment process for people with disabilities.
- Local programs must test individuals on a generally accepted standardized test to establish basic skills deficiency.
- As it relates to the second part of the definition ("... at a level necessary to function ..."), LWDB must further define what will determine if a youth is unable to demonstrate these skills well enough to function on the job, in the individual's family or in society.

### Required Action

LWDB staff must develop policy to include these requirements. These criteria 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](mailto:hecc.owi-workforce-policy@hecc.oregon.gov).

(updated 6/15/2020)

### References

- WIOA Regulations 20 CFR 681.290