

Rick Scott
GOVERNOR



Jesse Panuccio
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 6, 2015
TO: Regional Workforce Board Executive Directors
FROM: Lois A. Scott, Chief, Bureau of One-Stop and Program Support
SUBJECT: Definition of Out-of-School

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) defines an out-of-school youth as an individual who: (a) Is an eligible youth who is a school dropout; or (b) Is an eligible youth who has either graduated from high school or holds a GED, but is basic skills deficient, unemployed, or underemployed. State law defines the public K-12 school system to include “adult, part-time, and evening schools, courses, or classes, as authorized by law to be operated under the control of district school boards”. Under WIA, states have some discretion to define how the term “school dropout” is defined for purposes of participation in WIA funded youth programs. Different states have interpreted a youth who has dropped out of the traditional K-12 school system and is now attending GED classes as out-of-school while others have included them in the definition of in-school.

The new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) clearly defines youth enrolled in an adult education program (i.e. GED) as out-of-school. The Department has consulted with CareerSource Florida (CSF) and has determined that, during the transition period until WIOA is effective, it is appropriate for regional workforce boards to begin to use the new definition contained in WIOA that includes youth enrolled in an adult education program as an out-of-school youth for purposes of participation in a WIA funded youth program.

Regional Workforce Boards (RWBs) may include youth enrolled in an adult education program (i.e. GED) in the count of out-of-school youth served effective immediately. Please contact Trina Travis at Trina.Travis@deo.myflorida.com for any questions regarding this issue.

LAS/ml

cc: Michelle Dennard
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