

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Program



The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program assists young people, ages 14-24, who face significant barriers to success in the labor market, by providing resources and support to overcome those barriers and successfully transition to self-sufficient adulthood.

Who is eligible to participate?

An individual may qualify for the program as either an “**Out-of-School Youth**” or as an “**In-School Youth**.”

An **OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH** is an individual who is:

- (1) not attending any school (as defined by State law), and
- (2) not younger than age 16, or older than age 24.

The individual must ALSO be ONE of the following:

- A school dropout: Age 18+, or 16+ with parental consent.
- Within the age of compulsory school attendance but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
- A recipient of a secondary school diploma, or its recognized equivalent, who is a low-income individual and is:
 - basic skills deficient, or
 - an English language learner.
- An offender.
- Homeless.
- In foster care or aged out of the foster care system.
- Pregnant or parenting.
- An individual with a disability.
- A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.

An **IN-SCHOOL YOUTH** is an individual who is:

- (1) attending school (as defined by State law);
- (2) not younger than age 14 or older than age 21* and
- (3) low-income.

The individual must ALSO be ONE of the following:

- Basic skills deficient.
- An English language learner.
- An offender.
- Homeless.
- In foster care or aged out of the foster care system.
- Pregnant or parenting.
- An individual with a disability. (*An individual with a disability who is attending school under State law may be eligible as an In-School Youth through age 25.)
- An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.

What services are available through the WIOA Youth program?

WIOA Youth programs are operated on a year-round basis by local Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs). Available services include tutoring; study skills training; alternative secondary school offerings; dropout recovery services; paid and unpaid work experiences including summer employment opportunities; occupational skills training; and education offered concurrently with workforce preparation.

Additional services include leadership development opportunities; adult mentoring; follow-up services; comprehensive guidance and counseling; financial literacy education; entrepreneurial skills training; provision of labor market and employment information; and activities that help youth prepare for, and transition to, postsecondary education and training.

Supportive services, such as assistance with transportation, childcare, uniforms, and educational testing may also be available to eligible program participants.

Where can you find more information?

Contact Michigan Works! at 800-285-WORKS (9675), or find your local MWA at MichiganWorks.org.

More information about the WIOA Youth program is also available on the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workforce Development website, Michigan.gov/Workforce.

LEO is an equal opportunity employer, and WIOA is an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids, services and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.