



*Serving as the workforce development board for the Lower Shore of Maryland*

## **POLICY: OSY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Purpose**

To define the local policy regarding “a low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.”

### **Policy**

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Section 129(a) (1) (B), an out-of-school youth is defined as an individual who is:

- (A) not attending any school (as defined under State law);
- (B) not younger than age 16 or older than age 24;
- and**
- (C) one or more of the following:
  - a. A school dropout.
  - b. A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
  - c. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is—
    - i. basic skills deficient; or
    - ii. an English language learner.
  - d. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system.
  - e. A homeless individual (as defined in section 41403(6) of the Violence against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e–2(6))), a homeless child or youth (as defined in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2))), a runaway, in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677), or in an out-of-home placement.
  - f. An individual who is pregnant or parenting.
  - g. A youth who is an individual with a disability.
  - h. A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.

WIOA allows Workforce Development Boards to further define “an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment” according to local need.

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It is the policy of the Lower Shore Workforce Development Board that the local definition of “a low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment” is a low income youth:

- with poor work history, no work history, or who has been fired from a job within the last six months prior to application, or who has never held a full-time job for more than 13 consecutive weeks;
- with an incarcerated parent or guardian; or
- who has a family history of substance abuse.

The documentation to substantiate the eligibility criteria will include school records or referrals, court agency or partner referrals, work history, and/or applicant statement, and will be collected at enrollment application, recorded in the Maryland Workforce Exchange, and made part of the participant’s case management file.

Policy Approval Date: 12/13/2017 as part of *Youth Strategic Plan*

Policy Status: Active

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