

**Vocational Rehabilitation and WIOA Youth Programs
Collaboration Opportunities Script**

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1	Title Slide	Hello and welcome to this webcast providing an overview of Vocational Rehabilitation and WIOA Youth Programs Collaboration Opportunities.
2	Presenter	<p>I am Adrienne Bailey, Workforce Development Specialist with the Division of Youth Services within the U.S. Department of Labor.</p> <p>Because this is a recorded webcast, we want to encourage viewers to contact the Employment and Training Administration with any questions or comments after viewing the webcast. Contact information is provided at the end of the webcast.</p>
3	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)	<p>The Employment and Training Administration within the U.S. Department of Labor administers the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program authorized under Title I of WIOA of 2014.</p> <p>The WIOA Youth program provides resources to deliver a comprehensive array of youth services that focus on assisting out-of-school youth and in-school youth with one or more barriers to employment prepare for post-secondary education and employment opportunities, attain educational and/or skills training credentials, and secure employment with career/promotional opportunities.</p>

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4	WIOA Organizational Structure	<p>ETA administers and supports an array of formula and discretionary grant programs and projects that serve and assist individuals with disabilities, including students and youth with disabilities, to obtain educational and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Through WIOA, the US Department of Labor provides formula funds to states and outlying areas and then funds, in turn, are disseminated to local areas to deliver a comprehensive array of services to eligible youth.</p> <p>So, in their roles, The U.S. Department of Labor oversees the public workforce system</p> <p>The State Agency and State Workforce Development Board – Develop the State strategic vision which includes youth activities and provides leadership to the local boards and informs local strategies.</p> <p>Local Workforce Development Boards – Provides direction and strategies to local areas and sets training priorities, and</p> <p>Service Providers and American Job Centers –then provide the workforce development services to youth, adults, and dislocated workers.</p>
5	WIOA Youth Program Overview	<p>WIOA Youth program funds serve out-of-school youth ages 16 to 24 and in-school youth ages 14 to 21.</p> <p>The program provides career exploration and guidance, continued support for education attainment, opportunities for skills training in in-demand</p>

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		<p>industries, and good jobs along a career pathway, enrollment in postsecondary education, or a Registered Apprenticeship.</p> <p>Local program design provides objective assessment of skill levels and needs, develops service strategies and career pathways, and provides activities leading to attainment of secondary and post-secondary credentials and preparation for unsubsidized employment and connections to employers.</p> <p>Local programs are required to provide recruitment, intake, and eligibility determination, as well as case management and referrals, 14 program elements, and others which we will go over later in this presentation.</p>
6	<p>Who WIOA Youth Program Serves</p>	<p>To enroll in a WIOA Youth Program an individual must:</p> <p>Be an out-of-school youth ages 16-24 who is not attending school and has one or more employment barrier, or</p> <p>Be an in-school youth ages 14-21 who is low income and has one or more employment barrier.</p> <p>You can find additional information on program eligibility on The WIOA Youth Program Eligibility page which includes a fact sheet, an introductory webcast, and interactive tutorials on the eligibility requirements for the youth program.</p>

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7	WIOA Youth Program Priorities	<p>The WIOA Youth program has two main priorities:</p> <p>The first one is on serving OSY: WIOA requires states and local areas to spend a minimum of 75% of funds on OSY.</p> <p>This requirement demonstrates Congress' intention to ensure that those youth who are out of school and most in need (which includes youth with disabilities) are served in the WIOA Youth program.</p> <p>The second priority relates to the provision of the Work Experience program element: WIOA requires local areas to spend a minimum of 20% of funds on work experience.</p>
8	Objective Assessment	<p>Under WIOA, the youth program design requires an objective assessment of a youth's academic levels, skill levels, and service needs.</p> <p>This activity should include the review of a youth's basic skills, occupational skills, prior work experience, employability, interests, aptitudes, supportive service needs and developmental needs.</p> <p>The assessment should also consider a youth' strength and not solely focus on areas a youth needs to improve.</p>
9	14 Program Elements	<p>WIOA requires 14 program elements be made available to all WIOA youth participants. A youth may not need to receive all of the 14 program elements. The elements a youth receives should be determined by the objective assessment and identified in the individual service strategy.</p>

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		<p>The 14 program elements are listed here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tutoring and study skills instructions. ■ Alternative secondary school services, or dropout recovery services. ■ Paid and unpaid work experiences. ■ Occupational skill training. ■ Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities. ■ Leadership development opportunities. ■ Supportive services. ■ Adult mentoring for a duration of at least 12 months. ■ Follow-up services for not less than 12 months after the completion of participation. ■ Financial literacy education. ■ Entrepreneurial skills training. ■ Comprehensive guidance and counseling. ■ Activities that help youth prepare for and transition to post-secondary education and training. ■ Services that provide labor market and employment information about in-demand industry sectors.
10	Program Elements Continued	<p>The program elements required under WIOA section 129(c)(2) and 20 CFR 681.410 are discussed further in TEGl 21-16: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEGL/TEGL 21-16.pdf</p> <p>You can also find additional information on program element resources on the Youth Connections Community of Practice on the Program Element page.</p>

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		<p data-bbox="667 240 1816 321">https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2017/01/19/13/56/WIOA-Youth-Program-Element-Resources</p>
11	<p data-bbox="359 373 638 542">WIOA Youth Program Individual Service Strategy</p>	<p data-bbox="667 373 1806 454">In the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, section 129 c (1)(b) requires that all eligible youth have an Individual Service Strategy (ISS).</p> <p data-bbox="667 503 1890 672">The strategy should be linked to one or more WIOA indicators of performance. It should also identify career pathways that includes education and employment goals, appropriate achievement objectives, and appropriate services for the participant.</p> <p data-bbox="667 721 1879 889">This activity conducted by career counselor should consist of the counselor working along with a youth to identify their personal and career goals, how to achieve their goals, and resources needed support them in obtaining their goals.</p>
12	<p data-bbox="359 982 548 1063">ISS Sample Template</p>	<p data-bbox="667 982 1885 1112">Although there is no mandated WIOA Youth Individual Service Strategy (ISS) template required, the Employment and Training Administration has created a sample ISS template that WIOA Youth program case management may use.</p> <p data-bbox="667 1161 1864 1291">The sample template was developed based on ISS submissions from across the country and compiles key elements, common themes and best practices from practitioners.</p> <p data-bbox="667 1339 1780 1404">To view the Sample Youth ISS from the Employment and Training Administration, visit the Youth Connections Community of Practice at:</p>

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		https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/06/20/18/30/Youth-Individual-Service-Strategy-ISS.
13	Primary Youth Program Indicators of Performance under	The Primary Indicators of Performance include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Employment and Employment Rate 2nd Quarter after Exit ➤ Employment and Employment Rate 4th Quarter after Exit ➤ Median Earnings in the 2nd Quarter after Exit ➤ Credential Attainment Rate ➤ Measurable Skill Gains

14	Promoting Partnerships	A primary goal of WIOA is to bring together core programs of Federal investment to improve coordination of workforce preparation activities and employment services between federal programs to more effectively serve youth and youth with disabilities.
15	WIOA Core and Additional Partner Programs	<p>WIOA requires alignment and leveraging of the Title I WIOA youth program with other core and partner programs.</p> <p>The Core Partner Programs are the Title I adult and dislocated worker programs, Title II adult education and literacy programs, Title III Wagner-Peyser Employment Services and Title IV the Vocational Rehabilitation program.</p> <p>You can also see that the law names additional partner programs in order to coordinate and leverage resources to shared populations.</p> <p>Those include programs like the Career and Technical Education or Perkins Program, TANF, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Second Chance Act and others.</p>
16	Benefits of Partnerships	<p>Benefits of developing cross-agency partnerships allows</p> <p>Programs to gain access to information and data to improve services and increase efficiencies such as recruitment processes, referrals, and case management.</p>

		<p>This can aid in providing the most effective, targeted, and appropriate services that can help youth identify and successfully progress along a career pathway.</p> <p>To help build cross agency partnerships and best leverage core and additional partner programs in order to develop career pathways, please see: Career Pathways Toolkit: An Enhanced Guide and Workbook for System Development https://careerpathways.workforcegps.org/announcements/2016/10/20/09/37/Career Pathways Toolkit An Enhanced Guide and Workbook.</p>
17	Additional WIOA Youth Program Information	Additional WIOA Youth Program Information is available on the Youth Connections Community of Practice.
18	Join Our Community	Sign up to be an active member of the Youth Connections Community through Workforce GPS. The Youth Connections Community offers a wealth of information and technical assistance.
19	Contact Information	<p>For information on the WIOA Youth Program contact:</p> <p>Sara Hastings at the U.S. Department of Labor</p> <p>Or</p> <p>For General Inquiries, email Division of Youth Services Youth.services@dol.gov</p>

20	Thank you	<p>Thank you for joining us for this overview of the WIOA Youth program.</p> <p>If you are not familiar with the VR program and VR services for students and youth with disabilities, we encourage you to listen to RSA’s complimentary webcast which provides an overview of the VR program and services to ensure you have the foundational understanding of both programs. We hope you will join us for future webcasts which will detail how the WIOA Youth and VR programs can partner to expand resources and opportunities for students and youth with disabilities.</p>