**DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES**

**ISSUANCE NUMBER PY23-07**

**Date:** February 28, 2024

**From:** Charisse Childers, Ph.D., Director

**To:** Local Workforce Development Board Directors

**Subject:** **Funding Allocation Methodology for WIOA High Concentration of Eligible Youth**

1. **Purpose**: To award funding for assistance to the Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB) for “Eligible Youth” found in the WIOA law, Title 1, section 129. Eligible Youth are defined as individuals 16-24 years of age, who are considered low-income persons, and who have one or more of the following risk factors:
2. Deficient in basic literacy skills;
3. A school dropout;
4. Within the age of compulsory attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter;
5. Homeless, a runaway, or foster child;
6. Pregnant, or a parent;
7. An offender;
8. An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or secure and hold employment.
9. **General Information**: It is the Division of Workforce Services’ intent to categorize and prioritize risk factors that can be documented with reliable data from the following: 2020 Census; Arkansas Department of Education; Arkansas Department of Human Services; Arkansas Crime Information Center; and the Arkansas Department of Health.

**Part 1: ADWS Methodology to Define WIOA High Concentration of Eligible Youth for Additional Funding**

1. Count the individuals for each county in each of the categories we have available data.
2. Group the State's 75 counties into Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDA) and add the total number for each county in the LWDA to determine the total number in each LWDA. Some individuals will fit more than one category, but that will serve to weight more heavily areas that have more individuals with multiple eligibility factors.



1. (In all category calculations for the City of Little Rock LWDA and Central LWDA, a percentage of Pulaski County totals are used.) (Percentage used for the City of Little Rock LWDA is City of Little Rock’s Population divided by Total Pulaski County Population).
2. Divide the LWDA's weighted number of "Eligible Youth” by the LWDA's total population to determine what weighted percentage of the LWDA's population consists of Eligible Youth.
3. We propose any area that has a weighted percentage of Eligible Youth, as compared to its overall population, that is equal to or greater than \*22.50% will be deemed as having a "High Concentration of Eligible Youth" for purposes of the funding formula.
4. Thus, each LWDA that has a weighted percentage of Eligible Youth equal to \*22.50% or more will share in the funds. This is based on a formula of Total Eligible Youth divided by the total dollars available. The multiplier is used to determine each area’s amount to be awarded.

**Funding allocation based on a total of $200,000.00 with 50% allocated from Part 1.**



**Note: Source is LMI Summary Report for Eligible Youth by county and local.**

**Part 2: Funding Per LWDB based on “Average Barriers per Participant” calculation.**

The Part Two funding factor is the “Average Barriers per Participant Calculation”. WIOA focuses on serving individuals with barriers to employment and seeks to ensure access to quality services for these populations. The Average Barriers per Participant Calculation is obtained by dividing the total barriers served by the total participants. The higher the average, the more effective the services to this special population. In this calculation, the higher the percentage of Average Barriers per Participant, the higher the allocation percentage.

**Funding allocation based on a total of $200,000.00 with 50% allocated from Part 2.**



**Note: source of barrier data is the AJL system.**

**Total Funding based on $200,000.00 available.**



**Note: All awarded funds must be expended by February 28, 2025.**

* HCY Awards Period of Performance is March 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.
* All funds will be awarded by March 1, 2024, and must be expended by February 28, 2025.
* All expenditures must be in compliance with Uniform Guidance 2 CFR §200 and other applicable federal and state regulations.
* Financial reports are due no later than the 15th of each month.

1. **Action Required:** Questions regarding the allocation methodology or funding may be submitted to Angela Cook, ADWS E&T Assistant Director, at [Angela.Cook@arkansas.gov.](mailto:%20Angela.Cook@arkansas.gov.) Please copy Grants Managers, Shalon Bogard, at [Shalon.Bogard@arkansas.gov](mailto:%20Shalon.Bogard@arkansas.gov),and Doss Burgess, at [Doss.Burgess@arkansas.gov](mailto:Doss.Burgess@arkansas.gov), on all correspondence.
2. **Expiration Date:** Ongoing
3. **Attachments:**

* Detailed Project Description form
* Funding Allocation form