

**Northwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board
Policy and Procedures
Youth Services**

- I. An eligible youth is defined as an individual who [Section 101(13)]:
- A. Is age 14 through 21;
 - B. Is a low income individual;
 - C. Is within one or more of the following categories:
 - 1. Deficient in basic literacy skills;
 - 2. School dropout;
 - 3. Homeless, runaway, or foster child;
 - 4. Pregnant or parenting;
 - 5. Offender; or
 - 6. Is an individual (including a youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment. The WIB has defined this individual as follows:
 - a. an in-school youth who is off-track one or more classes in regard to graduation requirements or is failing one or more classes;
 - b. a youth who lacks necessary support services needed to attend school, training and/or work;
 - c. a youth who lacks consistent or good work history with employment less than six consecutive months or not more than 30 hours per week with the same employer; and/or
 - d. a youth who has taken and failed the high school graduation test one or more times and who is in need of tutoring to enable them to pass the test.
- II. Up to 5% of youth registrants served may be individuals who do not meet the income criterion for eligible youth, provided that they are approved by Coosa Valley RDC and are within one or more of the following categories [Section 129 (c) (5)]:
- A. School dropout;
 - B. Basic skills deficient as defined in WIA section 101(4);
 - C. Are one or more grade levels below the grade level appropriate to the individual's age;
 - D. Pregnant or parenting;
 - E. Possess one or more disabilities, including learning disabilities;

- F. Homeless or runaway;
 - G. Offender; or
 - H. Face serious barriers to employment as identified by the local board (WIA section 129(c)(5)). The WIB defined barriers include:
 - 1. Lacks self-sufficiency - WIB defined for adults and youth as an individual who has personal or family income that is less than 175% of the poverty level;
 - 2. An out-of-school youth who is underemployed - WIB defined for adults and youth as an individual who is currently employed, meets the definition of "lacks self-sufficiency" and whose employment has one or more of the following characteristics:
 - is temporary, seasonal, or interim in nature,
 - is in an occupation/industry that is subject to or has a history of repeat layoffs,
 - is with a company that offers no health insurance benefits,
 - is with a company that offers little or no career advancement opportunities,
 - is working part-time but desires full time; or
 - is working in employment not commensurate with the individual's demonstrated level of education; and/or.
 - 3. A youth who has taken and failed the high school graduation test one or more times and who is in need of tutoring to enable them to pass the test.
- III. The definition of incremental increase for youth without special needs is a minimum increase of 0.5 grade level and for those youth with special needs that the minimum increase be 0.1 grade level.