

SAN DIEGO WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP, INC.
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OPERATIONS ISSUANCE

OPERATIONS ISSUANCE NO. 2015-04

DATE: April 17, 2015

TO: Youth Program Service Providers

FROM: Andy Hall
Vice-President and Chief Program & EO Officer

SUBJECT: WIA TITLE I ELIGIBILITY CLARIFICATION – FOSTER YOUTH DEFINITION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this issuance is to notify Youth Service Providers of a clarification to the definition of “foster child” as it applies to low-income determination for WIA Youth Program eligibility.

BACKGROUND

The EDD WIA Directive, WSD14-4, WIA Title I Eligibility, issued on September 25, 2014 expanded the definition of “foster child” to include youth that have been in foster care at any time during his/her lifetime. San Diego Workforce Partnership issued operations issuance 2015-01 WIA Title I Eligibility Changes on October 10, 2015, indicating to Youth Program Providers that the definition of foster child had changed; however, it wasn’t made clear that this revised definition only applies to the use of the term “foster child” as one of the youth barriers to employment.

Clarification has been provided by the EDD Policy Unit that when using the term “foster child” to determine the youth’s low-income status, the definition has not changed and the youth must currently be a publicly supported foster child whose payments are made by state or local government.

In addition, as specified in the WIA Title I EDD Eligibility TAG, for the “foster care” data element, the only documentation accepted by the Department of Labor (DOL) is a written confirmation from a social services agency or case notes. As a result a local area may use court documents as documentation; however, the court documents must be used in combination with case notes explaining the foster care situation to be acceptable.

ACTION

This issuance is effective immediately. Please make sure all staff conducting Youth Program eligibility are aware of this distinction and applying it when conducting low-income determinations. If any errors in low-income determinations have occurred due to a misunderstanding of the new definition of foster care, please let your Program Specialist know so that SDWP can assist you in determining if the youth is low-income by another method, or by using a 5% window.

If you have any questions regarding this issuance, please contact your Program Specialist at (619) 228-2900.

cc: Workforce Partnership Internal Distribution List
America's Job Center of California Operators
Adult Program Service Providers
Bridge to Employment Program Navigators
Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.