

Questions Received on RFP NW 145 #16-04 WIOA Out of School Youth Program

Q1. What is the current provision for the requested services in Lawrence and Mercer Counties?

A1. The requested services are currently provided via contract with Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV through June 30, 2017 from a previous Request For Proposal (RFP).

Q2. How many participants is it anticipated the program will serve?

A2. WCJP cannot predict the number of individuals who will seek services outlined in the RFP during a given year. The actual number of individuals served during the last two program years follows:

PY 15 (7/1/15 to 6/30/16)	150 Lawrence; 115 Mercer
PY 16 (7/1/16 to 2/28/17)	85 Lawrence; 130 Mercer

Q3. Section 3.1 Literacy / Numeracy Component (Page 8) – Please clarify the process for attaining learning objectives for school dropouts – is it anticipated that the current GEDReady practice test be used as a pre-test and post-test rather than the TABE 9/10 assessment tools?

A3. TABE 9/10 is not being excluded for school drop-outs as it may be needed to determine if an individual has a barrier to employment for WIOA eligibility. GED practice test may be used as a pre-test and post-test to determine if an individual is ready to take the GED test. All testing/assessment tools must be approved by the PA Department of Education - please refer to PA Department of Education's assessment policy D.100 at <http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/Postsecondary-Adult/Adult%20Basic%20and%20Family%20Literacy%20Education/AdminDocs/PolicyManual/D100%20Adult%20Learner%20Assessment.pdf>

It provides the details of which assessments PDE allows. Please note that PDE requires Adult Education programs to use the locator/appraisal for the tests that have them. The ABLE test and the GED Ready Practice test/actual GED or HiSET tests are not approved for WIOA reporting purposes.

In all cases, the same post-test must be utilized to compare scores from the pre-test given (TABE pre-test scores cannot be compared to GEDReady scores).

Q4. Section 3.2 Work Readiness Skills component – If an individual does not have PA certification as a teacher but meets the other criteria and has relevant experience, may they be considered for the Instructor position?

A4. An individual without a PA teaching certification may be considered for the Work Readiness Skills component only – not the Literacy/Numeracy, GED preparation component.

Q5. Will the TABE complete Battery of tests be used to assess progress in vocabulary and spelling?

A5. While vocabulary and spelling are important to passing the GED or HiSET test, it is not a WCJP requirement unless the provider is claiming a measureable skill gain in one of those areas.