



Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act: Adult Program

FACT SHEET

The federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) provides employment and training services to dislocated workers, low-income adults and youth.

The services are delivered through WorkSource centers statewide. Local Workforce Development Councils oversee the system in partnership with state agencies, community and technical colleges, school districts, business, labor and nonprofits.

Services are prioritized based on veteran status, as well as income and basic skills deficiency

The WIOA Adult Program provides an array of workforce preparation and employment services that transform adults age 18 or older into skilled workers.

Funding and participation

The U.S. Department of Labor allocated nearly \$18 million to Washington for WIOA Adult programs for the July 2018-June 2019 program year. Funding for July 2017-June 2018 was

\$17.4 million. During that time, 25,075 Washington adults participated in WIOA Adult programs, and between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018, 20,944 exited the programs.

Employment outcomes are determined by cross referencing employer tax-and-wage records. Due to lag times in reporting, it can take up to a year to verify employment results for participants. Of those exiting the program from July 2016 through June 2017, 69.6 percent found a job with median earnings of \$7,859.





The right services to the right people

Individuals ages 18 or older and legally entitled to work in the U.S. are eligible for services through the WIOA Adult Program. WIOA provides three categories of service to enhance participants' abilities to find work.

1. **Basic career services:** Basic employment related services such as eligibility determinations, orientation to one-stop services; basic skill assessments; providing workforce and labor market information; and help with job search, referrals and placement.
2. **Individualized career services:** Career assessment, counseling and planning, work preparation, internships and work experience, and short-term pre-vocational training.
3. **Training services:** Occupational, on-the-job, entrepreneurship, education and literacy, incumbent worker and customized training.

Priority of service

WorkSource gives priority to individuals who have the most barriers to finding employment: typically, veterans (and their eligible spouses), welfare recipients and other low-income individuals, and those who are deficient in basic skills.

Funding distributed locally

The U.S. Department of Labor distributes WIOA funds to the Employment Security Department to allocate to the state's 12 Workforce Development Councils based on the employment and demographic characteristics of each area.

Each council decides how it will deliver WIOA Adult Program services by submitting a plan for the Governor's approval. The councils, with their partners, design the best service delivery format, taking into account the community's job market and the needs of local industries.

The councils are accountable to the Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board and U.S. Department of Labor for participants' success through measures related to employment, retention and earnings.

Adults interested in more information on the WIOA Adult Program should visit their local WorkSource center. Find a list of centers at WorkSourceWA.com.

