



CAREER SERVICES

PURPOSE

This policy provides guidance on career services.

SCOPE

The Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDBVC) and its contractors and subrecipients.

REFERENCES

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Public Law 113-128
- Training and Employment Guidance Letter WIOA No. 3-15, Guidance on Services Provided through the Adult and Dislocated Worker Program under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA or Opportunity Act) and Wagner Peyser, as Amended by WIOA, and Guidance for the Transition to WIOA Services (July 1, 2015)

POLICY

WIOA authorizes “career services” for adults and dislocated workers, rather than “core” and “intensive” services, as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). There are three types of “career services”: basic career services, individualized career services, and follow-up services. These services can be provided in any order; there is no sequence requirement for these services. Career services under this approach provide local areas and service providers with flexibility to target services to the needs of the customer.

The three categories of career services are defined as follows:

Basic Career Services

Basic career services must be made available to all individuals seeking services served in the America’s Job Center of California (AJCC) delivery system, and include:

- Determinations of whether the individual is eligible to receive assistance from the adult, dislocated worker, or youth programs;
- Outreach, intake (including identification through the state’s Worker Profiling and Reemployment Services system of unemployment insurance (UI) claimants likely to exhaust benefits), and orientation to information and other services available through the AJCC delivery system;

The Workforce Development Board of Ventura County is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

- Initial assessment of skill levels including literacy, numeracy, and English language proficiency, as well as aptitudes, abilities (including skills gaps), and supportive service needs;
- Labor exchange services, including—
 - Job search and placement assistance, and, when needed by an individual, career counseling, including—
 - Provision of information on in-demand industry sectors and occupations (as defined in sec. 3(23) of WIOA); and,
 - Provision of information on nontraditional employment (as defined in sec. 3(37) of WIOA);
- Provision of referrals to and coordination of activities with other programs and services, including those within the AJCC delivery system and, when appropriate, other workforce development programs;
- Provision of workforce and labor market employment statistics information, including the provision of accurate information relating to local, regional, and national labor market areas, including—
 - Job vacancy listings in labor market areas;
 - Information on job skills necessary to obtain the vacant jobs listed; and
 - Information relating to local occupations in demand and the earnings, skill requirements, and opportunities for advancement for those jobs;
- Provision of performance information and program cost information on eligible providers of training services by program and type of providers;
- Provision of information about how the local area is performing on local performance accountability measures, as well as any additional performance information relating to the area's AJCC delivery system;
- Provision of information relating to the availability of supportive services or assistance, and appropriate referrals to those services and assistance, including: child care; child support; medical or child health assistance available through the State's Medicaid program and Children's Health Insurance Program; benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); assistance through the earned income tax credit; housing counseling and assistance services sponsored through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and assistance under a State program for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and other supportive services and transportation provided through that program;
- Assistance in establishing eligibility for programs of financial aid assistance for training and education programs not provided under WIOA; and
- Provision of information and assistance regarding filing claims under UI programs, including meaningful assistance to individuals seeking assistance in filing a claim—
 - Meaningful assistance means providing assistance:
 - On-site using staff who are properly trained in UI claims, filing, and/or the acceptance of information necessary to file a claim, or
 - By phone or via other technology, as long as the assistance is provided by trained and available staff and within a reasonable time;

- The costs associated in providing meaningful assistance may be paid for by the State's UI program, the WIOA Adult or Dislocated Worker programs, the Wagner-Peyser Employment Service, or some combination thereof these funding sources.

Individualized Career Services

If AJCC staff determine that individualized career services are appropriate for an individual to obtain or retain employment, these services must be made available to the individual. These services must be available in all AJCCs. AJCC staff may use recent previous assessments by partner programs to determine if individualized career services would be appropriate. These services include:

- Comprehensive and specialized assessments of the skill levels and service needs of adults and dislocated workers, which may include—
 - Diagnostic testing and use of other assessment tools; and
 - In-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and appropriate employment goals;
- Development of an individual employment plan, to identify the employment goals, appropriate achievement objectives, and appropriate combination of services for the participant to achieve his or her employment goals, including the list of, and information about, eligible training providers;
- Group and/or individual counseling and mentoring;
- Career planning (e.g. case management);
- Short-term pre-vocational services, including development of learning skills, communication skills, interviewing skills, punctuality, personal maintenance skills, and professional conduct to prepare individuals for unsubsidized employment or training, in some instances pre-apprenticeship programs may be considered as short-term prevocational services;
- Internships and work experiences that are linked to careers;
- Workforce preparation activities that help an individual acquire a combination of basic academic skills, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and self-management skills, including competencies in utilizing resources, using information, working with others, understanding systems, and obtaining skills necessary for successful transition into and completion of postsecondary education, or training, or employment;
- Financial literacy services;
- Out-of-area job search assistance and relocation assistance; and
- English language acquisition and integrated education and training programs

Follow-up Services

Follow-up services must be provided as appropriate for participants who are placed in unsubsidized employment, for up to 12 months after the first day of employment. Counseling

about the work place is an appropriate type of follow-up service. Follow-up services do not extend the date of exit in performance reporting.

ACTION

Bring this policy to the attention of all affected staff.

INQUIRIES

Inquiries regarding this policy can be addressed to the WDBVC at 805-477-5306.

/S/ Rebecca Evans, Executive Director
Workforce Development Board of Ventura County