



Adult Priority of Service Policy

The Ozark Region follows the Veteran priority and gives priority of employment and training activities to veterans who are recipients of public assistance and low-income veterans.

Recognizing the priorities available in WIOA 20 CFR 680.650, the Ozark Region will make participant funds available as stated below:

A minimum of 75% of Title I WIOA Adult funds will be allocated to Priority Level I, and a maximum of 25% of Title I WIOA Adult funds will go to Priority Level II (if needed, a Board vote will be required to adjust percent during a program year).

Priority Level I

1. Veterans
2. Veterans who are recipients of public assistance or who are low-income.
3. An individual who receives, or is a member of a family who receives cash public assistance;
4. An individual who receives, or is a member of a family who receives or has been determined within the six months prior to eligibility determination, eligible to receive food stamps;
5. A member of a family whose annualized incomes does not exceed the higher of (a) Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, or (b) the Department of Labor's Lower Living Standard Income Level;
6. Individuals who are basic skills deficient including English language learners:

In the event that an Adult customer is over-income, the following policy will be followed.

Priority Level II

Currently employed worker who has received a WIOA Adult Career enrollment as defined by WIOA and is a member of a family whose annualized income does not exceed 250% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level may be considered in need of individualized services in order to retain employment that allows for self-sufficiency. For the purposes of determining the eligibility of currently employed workers, "self-sufficiency" means identifying either of the following conditions that impair an employed worker's ability to achieve or maintain self-sufficiency:

1. A need for additional training to learn skills to use new technologies and/or processes in order to retain current employment (Skill Acquisition).
2. Conditions that require an employed worker's company to retrain its workers to enable the company to be more competitive in the marketplace or to avoid company failure and loss of jobs in the community (Job Retention).
3. Conditions that prevent the employed worker from maintaining self-sufficiency due to part-time hours, low hourly wage, or employed in a declining industry within the region (Skill acquisition-Industry).



For individuals who need staff-assisted basic career services only, staff may complete a basic WIOA enrollment for that purpose with a self-attestation of income. If it is later determined that the individual needs services beyond staff assisted, the individual will need to meet one of the priority levels above and the income verification must be obtained.

Revised and approved 06/02/2021

Revised and approved by the Workforce Development Board on June 1, 2022, and by the Council of Local Elected Officials on June 3, 2022.