

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS POLICY #: 3028 Revision 5

Original Policy Date: 8/28/2013 Effective Date: 7/1/2015 Revision Date: 07/27/2023

Purpose:

To communicate integrated eligibility guidelines and documentation requirements for Wagner-Peyser, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title 1 Youth, Adult, Dislocated Worker, Jobs for Veterans State Grant, and Trade Adjustment Assistance programs.

Background:

This integrated WIOA eligibility policy includes an eligibility and documentation "Handbook" that details specific WIOA Title I Youth, Adult, and Dislocated Worker program eligibility criteria and incorporates supplemental guidance specific to WIOA Title I programs.

The Handbook identifies acceptable documentation of various eligibility criteria that align with the data element validation (DEV) requirements as of the issuance of <u>TEGL 23-19</u>, <u>Change 1</u>.

<u>Policy:</u> a. Program Eligibility

This policy addresses eligibility requirements for Wagner-Peyser, Title 1 Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, Jobs for Veterans State Grant, and Trade Adjustment Assistance programs.

Program eligibility requirements are detailed in the handbook.

b. Data Element Validation (DEV) and Documentation Requirements

Service Providers are required to maintain adequate documentation to ensure credibility of eligibility determinations and to support DEV requirements in alignment with this policy.

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) mandates annual DEV to assess the accuracy of reported participant data through specific documentation requirements. Several of the data elements validated through this process pertain to program eligibility.

It is the policy of the state to align WIOA program eligibility documentation with existing DEV documentation requirements for any eligibility components that are included under DEV (refer to handbook Sec. 6). Aligning these requirements will increase efficiencies and ensure DEV requirements are met (for eligibility components) at the time of participant enrollment. In this way, eligibility documentation will support future data validation efforts.

As noted, the Handbook identifies acceptable documentation of various eligibility criteria that align with WIOA DEV requirements as of the issuance of <u>TEGL 23-19, Change 1</u>.

In addition to the alignment described above, there are other eligibility components not addressed by DEV. The state has aligned its policy with additional documentation requirements provided by DOL (e.g. Selective Service Registration) and the state (e.g. Unemployment Insurance), and ESD has established eligibility documentation requirements for additional eligibility components that are not addressed by DOL.

c. Self-Attestation

It is the policy of WSW to utilize self-attestation as a minimum documentation requirement for any eligibility component unless specific documentation requirements are provided in DOL guidance (i.e. DEV requirements in <u>TEGL 23-19</u>, <u>Change 1</u> or Selective Service documentation requirements in <u>TEGL 11-11</u>, <u>Change 2</u>) or state law (i.e. the requirements governing UI eligibility determination). In an effort to reduce the amount of administrative burden resulting from the capture and maintenance of paper documentation, WSW allows the use of self-attestation (as defined in this document, its handbook and <u>TEGL 23-19</u>, <u>Change 1</u>) wherever permissible under federal guidelines. These guidelines have been noted in the attached handbook.

To ensure properly documented customer self-attestation, WSW requires Service Providers to use the attached sample self-attestation form. Improperly documented selfattestation or self-attestation on eligibility elements not permitted under federal law or guidance or this policy may result in disallowed costs. Properly documented selfattestation serves as documentary evidence of eligibility determination and does not, by itself, warrant disallowed cost findings. At the same time, properly documented selfattestation does not, by itself, preclude disallowed cost findings if it is determined during monitoring, reviews, or audits that the attestation was false.

Definitions:

For a complete list of definitions refer to the attached handbook.

Data Element Validation (DEV) – The federally mandated process by which the state annually assesses the accuracy of reported participant data (refer to WorkSource System Policy 1003 Rev 4 and <u>TEGL 23-19</u>, <u>Change 1</u>).

Self-Attestation – Self-attestation occurs when a participant (applicant) states his or her status for a particular data element, such as pregnant or parenting youth, and then signs and dates a form acknowledging this status. The key elements for self-attestation are: (a) a participant (applicant) identifying his or her status for a permitted data element and (b) signing and dating a form attesting to this self-identification. These forms can be accessed in Sec. 7 of the attached handbook.

Supersedes:

• 3028 Eligibility Guidelines and Documentation Requirements Rev 4

Website:

http://workforcesw.org/providers#policies

Attachments:

Attachment A: Eligibility Handbook (<u>click here</u>) Attachment B: Self Attestation Adult/Dislocated Worker Form (<u>click here</u>) Attachment C: Self Attestation Youth Form (<u>click here</u>)