



WORKFORCESOLUTIONS

G R E A T E R D A L L A S

REVISED
05/20/09

President's Briefing—Item E Policy

In efforts to continue to update policies, the following summaries are available for your review:

Support Services

A. Needs Related Payments.

Under WIA, funds that are allocated to a local workforce area are allowed to be used for Needs-Related Payments. Needs-Related Payments (NRPs) provide financial assistance to eligible adult and dislocated workers to enable them to participate in training and education programs. A fundamental principle of WIA is to provide the local areas with the authority to make policy and administrative decisions in order to tailor the services offered through WIA to meet the needs of the local community. Local Workforce Investment Boards are required to develop policies and procedures addressing coordination of services and resources with other programs and entities. Assurances should be made that the resources and services provided are not available through other entities and that they are necessary for the individual to participate in WIA activities. Needs-Related Payments should only be provided with WIA funds when other funds are not available or have been exhausted. This policy has been amended to align with Texas Workforce Commission guidance, *WD Letter 13-09—the following applies for Needs Related Payments:*

For a participant who was eligible for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits as a result of a qualifying dislocation, NRPs must not exceed the applicable weekly level of the UI benefit.

For a participant who do not qualify for UI benefits as result of a qualifying layoff, NRPs, must not exceed the US Department of Health and Human Services' poverty income guidelines for the participant's family size.

B. Child Care Parent Fee Policy

This policy has been amended to allow for increased flexibility with the assessing of parent share of cost for possible reduction. If there are extenuating circumstances that jeopardize a family's self-sufficiency Texas Workforce Commission Rule 809.19 allows for the Board to reduce the assessed parent share of costs if warranted by these circumstances.

C. Modifications to Youth Policy –Documentation of Sixth Criteria—In accordance with section 101 (13) of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the term eligible youth means an individual who:

- (A) is not less than age 14 and not more than age 24;
- (B) is a low-income individual and
- (C) is an individual who is one or more of the following:
 - (1) Deficient in basic literacy skills
 - (2) A school dropout
 - (3) Homeless, a runaway, or a foster child
 - (4) Pregnant or a parent
 - (5) An offender
 - (6) An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an education program, or to secure and hold employment.

RECOMMENDATION: Board authorization for the above policy summaries as presented.