

## Notes from Kay Tracy/John Olson/Youth Team update -- Job Seeker Services Meeting on 2/24/21:

### WIOA Youth

- 1. Projected 30% increase in PY21 WIOA Youth Funding:** DOL released TEN 14-20 providing state-level **“planning estimates”** for PY21 WIOA Youth. See link to [Training and Employment Notice 14-20](#), dated January 14, 2021. Minnesota is one of 9 states projected to see a 30% increase in PY2021 WIOA Youth funding. MN’s PY21 WIOA Youth Program planning estimate is \$10.7 million. This is the maximum increase that could be provided to any state given the “hold harmless.” Sixteen states projected to take a 10% decrease in PY21 WIOA Youth funds (the maximum decrease that any state can sustain).
- 2. When will WDA-level allocations for PY21 WIOA Youth be available?** DEED’s LMI Director (Oriane Casale) recently provided Youth Team with updated **Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) data by WDA** (see attached). ASU data calculated at the WDA level is required for the WIOA youth (and adult) allocation models. When the TEGL from DOL is issued to states with final PY21 WIOA allocations, Youth Team will issue PY21 WIOA Youth WDA-level allocations. Oriane prepared the attached information – every MN WDA has at least one ASU, which is better than last year when 6 did not.
- 3. Preliminary PY2020 WIOA Youth Performance Data:** Youth Team released preliminary PY20 WIOA Youth performance data on 1/13/20. The data looks good at this stage of the process. Rosters are available for local review. Be sure to work on follow up data and it is not too soon to think about report cards and transcripts.
- 4. DOL Assessment: Comparing PY2018 and PY2019 WIOA Youth Performance Data at National Level:** Youth Team shared on 2/18, DOL’s assessment of WIOA Youth performance data – comparing PY2019 to PY2018 performance for all states. MN’s youth performance data excellent compared to other states. These are sample handouts for DOL’s upcoming 3-day Performance Accountability Training Session in March. We are interested in DOL’s response to questions on how the Statistical Adjustment Model (SAM) will be adjusted for PY20 and PY21 in response to the Covid-19 emergency. We will keep you posted and will share additional handouts/notes from the sessions. DOL also has a webinar coming up soon on Data Validation.
- 5. Waiver to 20% Carry Over Limit for PY20 WIOA Youth - Due to Covid-19 emergency:** WDAs who cannot expend/obligate 80% of their PY20 WIOA Youth funding by June 30, 2021, due to the Covid-19 emergency, may submit a waiver request. The waiver may be included with the Local Youth Plan updates in April or can be submitted earlier. If the PY20 WIOA Youth funds are 80% obligated/expended by the WDA by 6/30/21, no waiver is required.
- 6. DOL Youth Listening Session Recording/Downloads:** On December 9, 2020, DOL hosted a national webinar entitled “Youth Voice: How Workforce Development Programming Best Supports Me!”. A.J. Holmes, a youth participant served through the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, shared his experiences with the national audience. A.J and the Northeast Team did a great job. The recording of the webinar (and other downloadable items) can be found at:  
<https://youth.workforcegps.org/sitecore/content/global/events/2020/10/20/14/23/Youth-Listening-Session-Youth-Voice-How-Workforce-Development-Programming-Best-Supports-Me>.

7. **Anticipated Change to How Activities Are Reported in WorkForce 1 (WF1):** Coming soon in March or April: WF1 staff will update the WF1 system to allow case managers to identify if an activity is provided “In-Person,” “Hybrid,” or “Virtual.” The revision implemented as the result of a request from a local partner.

### **Youth at Work Opportunity Grants**

SFY22-23 Youth at Work Request for Proposals (RFP) and Webinar for Interested Applicants are posted on DEED’s Competitive Grants website, see: <https://mn.gov/deed/about/contracts/open-rfp.jsp>.

Direct questions via e-mail to: [Cory.Schmid@state.mn.us](mailto:Cory.Schmid@state.mn.us). Youth Team posting Q and A’s on the website each week. Proposals due on April 9, 2021.

Funding for SFY22-23 Youth at Work Grants, Minnesota Youth Program, Youthbuild and Youth Support Services grants included in the Governor’s Budget/SF1098/HF1342 at current funding levels. Youth practitioners should review pages 106-109, proposed youth performance/reporting metrics for youth programs funded under the WDF. These metrics proposed to be added to Uniform Report Card.

Thank you for your cooperation.

If questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Kay.Tracy@state.mn.us](mailto:Kay.Tracy@state.mn.us) or [John.R.Olson@state.mn.us](mailto:John.R.Olson@state.mn.us) or any member of the Youth Services Team.

Kay + Youth Team