

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

State Policy Number 11

WIOA ALLOCATION POLICY

Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

I. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and information to Local Workforce Development Areas regarding the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title 1 allotments for operating Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth and Rapid Response activities. The funds allocated to the local areas for youth, adult, and dislocated worker activities will be allocated based on the formulas specified in WIOA Section 128(b)(2)(A)(I) and 132(b)(2)(A)(I), respectively. The State will consult with the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) on the development of allocation formulas for the distribution and operation of approved WIOA activities.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR WIOA ALLOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION

A. Adult

The WIOA allows the following allocation process:

1. Standard Allocation Formula
 - a. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative number of unemployed individuals in areas of substantial unemployment in each area, compared to the total number of unemployed individuals in areas of substantial unemployment in all areas. The term "area of substantial unemployment" means any area that is of sufficient size and scope to sustain a program of workforce investment activities carried out under this subtitle and that has an average rate of unemployment of at least 6.5 percent for the most recent 12 months.
 - b. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative excess number of unemployed individuals in each area, compared to the total excess number of unemployed individuals in all areas. The term "excess number" means, used with respect to the excess number of unemployed individuals within a State, a higher of: (1) the number that represents the number of unemployed individuals in excess of 4.5 percent of the civilian labor force; or (2) the number that represents the number of unemployed individuals in excess of 4.5 percent of the civilian labor force in areas of substantial unemployment.
 - c. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative number of disadvantaged adults in each area, compared to the total number of disadvantaged adults in all areas. The term "disadvantaged adult" means

an adult who received income, or is a member of a family that received a total family income that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of: (1) the poverty line; or (2) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level.

B. Youth

The WIOA allows for the following allocation process:

1. Standard Allocation Formula
 - a. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative number of unemployed individuals in areas of substantial unemployment in each area, compared to the total number of unemployed individuals in areas of substantial unemployment in all areas;
 - b. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative excess number of unemployed individuals in each area, compared to the total excess number of unemployed individuals in all areas; and
 - c. 33 1/3 percent shall be allotted on the basis of the relative number of disadvantaged youth in each area, compared to the total number of disadvantaged youth in all areas.

C. Dislocated Worker

1. Allocation Formula

The State shall allocate not less than 60 percent based on an allocation formula prescribed by the Governor. The formula shall use the most recent available information and shall include:

- a. Insured unemployment,
- b. Unemployment concentrations,
- c. Plant closing and mass layoff,
- d. Declining industries,
- e. Farmer-rancher economic hardship,
- f. Long term unemployment.

ALLOCATION FACTOR	WEIGHT ASSIGNED IN FORMULA
Insured Unemployment Data	10%
Unemployment Concentrations Data	25%
Plant Closing and Mass Layoff Data	10%
Declining Industries Data	20%
Farmer-Rancher Economic Hardship Data	5%
Long-Term Unemployment Data	30%

2. Transfer Authority

DOL allows transfer of up to 100% of funds between Dislocated Worker and Adult funding streams.

D. Distribution of Rapid Response Funds

As described in WIOA Part 682, the State will reserve up to 25% of dislocated worker funds for rapid response activities. Once the State has reserved adequate funds for rapid response activities, the remainder of the funds may be used by the state to provide funds to local areas that experience increased numbers of unemployed individuals due to natural disasters, plant closings, mass layoffs or other events for provision of direct services to participants.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective July 1, 2015.


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