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## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

317 W Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Date: September 8, 2020  
To: WDC Executive Committee  
From: Wendi Secrist, Executive Director  
Subject: WIOA PY19 Recapture Options for Youth

The following WIOA Title IB Youth funds were recaptured from service providers and need to be expended in PY20:

- PY19 Youth Total Allocation - \$2,763,203
  - Local Area Balance of State - \$455,289
  - Local Area Region 6 - \$0

Under our new policy, as the local workforce board, we can either provide those funds back to the service provider to use in PY20 for the Youth program or identify special projects which may include the following types of activities:

1. One-Stop Operator costs
2. Shared One-Stop infrastructure costs
3. Up to 10% for administrative costs
4. Evaluations and activities related to program integrity
5. Research and labor market analysis
6. Local plan development
7. Promote business representation on the local Workforce Development Board
8. Develop employer engagement
9. Develop career pathways
10. Identify proven and promising practices and initiatives for meeting needs of employers, workers and jobseekers in the local workforce development system
11. Develop strategies for using technology to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of the local workforce development system for employers, workers and jobseekers
12. Conduct program oversight
13. Negotiate local performance accountability measures
14. Selection of local service providers
15. Coordination with education providers
16. Assessment of physical and programmatic accessibility for individuals with disabilities

In PY19, there was substantial carry-in from PY18 totaling just over \$1m. Staff from the WDC and Administrative Entity are supportive of “resetting” the budgets this program year so that when new contracts are put in place starting July 1, 2021, all three programs will have a fresh start.

The WDC, as the local board, has the option to fund special projects with these recaptured funds, however, all funds must be spent by June 30, 2021. Any funds that are not spent by that time will roll back to the State Administrative Entity and they will have until June 30, 2022 to spend the funds before they roll back to the US Department of Labor. Based on the timeframe, WDC and Administrative Entity Staff have collaborated to propose the following special projects. If approved, appropriate sub-awards will be put in place immediately to ensure that they can be carried out before the end of the program year.

1. Conduct research on the population to better identify how to reach them and what their needs are.
  - a. Out-of-School Youth are perhaps the most challenging population to serve under WIOA. By definition, they are individuals age 16-24 who are out-of-school and not working. Case managers have a difficult time finding individuals to serve, as they cannot be recruited from school. Once enrolled in the program, they can be supported to complete their high-school diploma, enroll in postsecondary training, engage in leadership development, mentoring, comprehensive counseling, financial literacy, etc.
  - b. The recommendation is to provide up to \$20,000 per region (service delivery area), \$120,000 total, to the local public postsecondary institution to conduct a study on their out-of-school youth population. This would include identifying other community-based entities that are serving these individuals, conducting a survey among the target population, identifying the best methods to reach the population, and uncovering barriers to reaching and serving them.
  - c. The results of the research would be used to modify the recruitment and service delivery approaches for the program to ensure that we are able to direct the resources to those most in need.
2. Marketing/Recruitment
  - a. Once the research is completed, a marketing/recruitment campaign would be launched to recruit participants for the new program year. The campaign would start in the late spring with the goal of encouraging youth to participate in summer employment related activities between the end of May and September 2021.
  - b. Up to \$50,000 would be made available to the Idaho Department of Labor to conduct this campaign through an existing contract with their communications firm.
3. Transitional Services for Justice Involved Youth
  - a. The Idaho Department of Corrections could leverage a part-time WIOA (IDOL) Consultant and a full-time IDOC liaison to support this population, both of whom would work out of the IDOC’s Boise One Stop Re-Entry Center. The WIOA consultant would work 1-2 day at the One Stop Re-Entry Center and assist individuals with transitioning back into the workforce. This would include those currently incarcerated and those who have recently been released. The WIOA consultant would assist with walking all individuals through the WIOA application and enrollment process along with transitioning inmates in IDOC registered apprenticeship programs into registered apprenticeship programs that exist in their local area. The IDOC Liaison would also assist inmates and those who were recently released, but would focus on individuals who are not staying in the Treasure Valley. They would work closely with WIOA consultants in the area where the individual is transitioning to once released. This would ensure a smoother transition for the individual and connect them to resources in their area.
  - b. Up to \$120,000 would be made available for this project.

4. Youth in Need

- a. The Governor's Reserve has provided approximately \$30,000 annually for the past few years to support a special project targeted at youth in need – primarily migrant and seasonal farmworker families. There are approximately 12,500 youth in the state that fall into the target population. The funds have supplemented outreach efforts and IDOL staff have been successful in increasing enrollment of this population.
- b. Up to \$165,262 could be made available to provide a total of 2.0 FTEs statewide to scale the level of outreach and services provided to these youth. Staff would be employees of IDOL. Anticipate providing services to 180 youth in need.

Other ideas explored include a statewide training conference for staff supporting this population and funding training for cohorts in certain job categories (culinary as an example). Given the timeframe of when the funding needs to be spent, and the current conditions related to the pandemic, these were set aside for this year and could be options for future recaptured funds.