

Operational Policy NO. OP- 413

Subject: **Definition of Sixth Barrier for Youth Eligibility**
Effective: **PY04 – 12/13/2004**

BACKGROUND:

WIA mandates that youth participants not only be income-eligible, but must have one (1) or more of six (6) barriers to employment. Interpretation of the sixth barrier is broad and has the potential for questionable participant eligibility situations. To ensure eligibility of those youth using the sixth barrier, WCCNM establishes parameters for documentation that is acceptable to verify the barrier.

This policy provides Youth Service Providers contracted by WCCNM guidance regarding the sixth youth barrier, “an individual (including youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or secure and hold employment.

POLICY:

Youth are eligible for program enrollment per WIA under the sixth barrier if he or she is:

- A. An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment due to an unstable home environment;

Acceptable documentation:

Letter from school official, counselor, case manager, teacher, social service agent, JPPO officer, police officer or clergy which states why there exists an unstable home environment—

Conditions of “unstable home environment” include family members identified with a history of substance abuse, child abuse, neglect, violence, basic skills deficient, English as a second language, or gang involvement or prospective participants identified with a history of substance abuse, child abuse, neglect, violence, or gang involvement

- B. A gifted student who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment;

Acceptable documentation:

Letter or IEP from a school official, case manager, or teacher, which states that the participant qualifies as a gifted student and states why the individual requires additional assistance

- C. An individual with a disability (as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Rehabilitation Act, or the Americans with Disabilities Act) who

requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment

Acceptable documentation:

- a. IEP denoting disability;
- b. Letter from physician or other professional diagnostician denoting disability;
- c. Documentation from Social Security Administration denoting disability; or
- d. Documentation from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation denoting disability.

APPLICABILITY:

WIA Youth (ages 14-21)

INQUIRIES:

WIA Manager 505-247-1750