

Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board

POLICY: **Eligible Training Providers**

REFERENCE: **WIOAPL 16-02.1 | Published 05.28.2019**

APPROVAL DATE: **Approved by the Executive Committee 06.13.2019**
 Ratified by the Board

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to establish the criteria for eligible training providers (ETPs) who may receive WIOA funding to provide training services and the procedures for approving them on the State ETP list stored on the State Website as the Workforce Inventory of Education and Training (WIET).

POLICY STATEMENT:

- As was noted in SWORWIB Policy related to WIOAPL 16-02 and now for 16-02.1, the ETP Policy for the SWORWIB (effective since 2008) was examined by the Senate HELP Committee (2012) which determined that there needed to be improvements under WIOA for Eligible Training Provider registration, performance recording and the State obligation to publicly disclose performance results. WIOA of 2014 included such requirements as developed by the SWORWIB and were advocated by the SWORWIB during the Senate HELP Committee site visit to the SWORWIB and Employers First Collaborative of four tri-state workforce boards in 2012 and subsequently included in WIOA of 2014 federal legislation.
- This amendment is specifically issued to note the implementation of a waiver of training provider reporting requirements by the State of Ohio as the Office of Workforce Development, in the opinion of the Executive, yielded to higher education lobbying that they are not and should not be under any requirements to share performance results for completions, credentials, employment and/or wages of their students regardless of the funding source.
- Our ETP policy statements are located on our website, www.SWORWIB.org and Include all materials for the evaluation process by the SWORWIB through the ETP Review and Evaluation Committee of the Board and for which this local process under this WIOAPL requires that ETPs conform to in order to be utilized by SWORWIB/Local Area 13 Ohio with funds available to the local area and to SWORWIB sometimes with additional private and resources.
- A Rescission Section III was added and subsequently affected the numbering.
- Background, now Section IV, is significantly expanded and notes specifically that only ETPs registered and approved on the list can be used locally and across the state for Individual Training Accounts and On-the-Job Training Accounts.

- Definitions, now Section V, are substantially expanded and must be well understood by our OMJ One Stop Operator.
- State Requirements, now Section VI, are also dramatically expanded in all aspects and include information on certification of basic skills or Work Readiness, as well as changing terms from WIET to Management of the State ETP List which is far more detailed than the prior policy and explains changes based on initial eligibility, continued eligibility, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Loss of ETP eligibility, the Appeal Process for ETPs and a section on “Dissemination of State ETP List information” in the same document as noting the waiver of performance obligation by some state systems famously unable to keep track of participants or students or other customers where short-term or long-term as it relates to the performance requirements expected by the general public for the Workforce Boards to be able to report results.
- This amendment also adds Section VII: Local Workforce Board Requirements, not previously provided in the original policy, that passes the following responsibilities on to the local area:
 - Carryout procedures assigned to the local area by the State, such as informing the State of concerns related to the quality of providers or inaccurate performance data. This seems abusive on locals on the face of it since the State obtained waiver to even know the performance from ETPs.
 - Assuring there are sufficient numbers and types of providers of training services, including ETPs with expertise in assisting individuals with disabilities or in need of adult education and literacy activities, and
 - Ensuring the wide dissemination and appropriate use of the information in the State ETP. Given that the SWORWIB will evaluate all training investments in our local area ourselves, this requirement seems irrelevant to our business operations, particularly since the amendment adds other items the SWORWIB may due, such as obtaining information (such as our performance results done annually) so as to respond to and promote “informed customer choice”; assess the quality of the providers such as we already do since we conduct an annual evaluation process based on performance results.
 - The State amendment does note that local Boards are NOT required to provide WIOA funding to a training provider listed in the WIET/State ETP list and may - and in the case of the SWORWIB has established local policy regarding ETPs and training investments in Ohio Area #13.
- Technical Assistance was noted in Section VIII.
- Section IX addressed “references” which expanded from four in the original policy to nine in the amendment including an Attachment A: Credential Classification Checklist Template we obtained from state staff to complete our local policy adoption of this 16-02.1 amendment in as much as the website location did not open.

ACTION: Subsequent to Executive Committee approval and ratification by the Board, this policy summary, with the Credential Classification Checklist Template will be transmitted to the OMJ Center Operator for staff training and program updates delivery.