

# 14 Youth Program Elements

WIOA Section 129(c)(2) describes 14 youth program elements that must be made available to youth participants. Providers must ensure youth participants have access to all 14 youth program elements either through direct service or referral partnerships. Program providers are not required to directly deliver all 14 elements; however, providers must directly deliver at least one of elements 3, 7, 8, 9, and 13, at a minimum every quarter. These elements are below.

<b>PROGRAM ELEMENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1. Tutoring, study skills training, and instruction leading to the completion of secondary school, including dropout prevention strategies;	These services focus on academic support, assisting with learning obstacles, and can be provided one-on-one, in a group setting, or through resources and workshops.
2. Alternative secondary school services or dropout recovery, as appropriate;	Services attempting to reengage students, who may have dropped out, through credit recovery, counselling, and educational plan development.
3. Paid and unpaid work experience that links academic and occupational education, employment opportunities, pre-apprenticeship programs, internships and job shadowing, and on the job training;	Work experience is a planned, structured learning experience that takes place in a workplace for a limited period. Work experience may be paid or unpaid, and may take place in the private for-profit sector, the non-profit sector, or the public sector. Labor standards apply in any work experience where an employee/employer relationship exists, as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act or applicable State law.
4. Occupational skills training, as appropriate; particularly training that leads to industry recognized credentials aligned with in-demand industry sectors;	Occupational skills training is defined as an organized program of study that provides specific vocational skills that lead to proficiency in performing actual tasks and technical functions required by certain occupational fields at entry, intermediate, or advanced levels. Such training must:  (1) Be outcome-oriented and focused on an occupational goal specified in the individual service strategy;

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	<p>(2) Be of sufficient duration to impart the skills needed to meet the occupational goal; and                  (3) Lead to the attainment of a recognized postsecondary credential.</p> <p>*When youth are enrolled in academic or occupational skills training in WIOA programs, they must be assisted in earning an industry recognized credential and demonstrating a measurable skill gain.</p>
<p>5. Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;</p>	<p>This program element reflects an integrated education and training model and describes how workforce preparation activities, basic academic skills, and hands-on occupational skills training are to be taught within the same time frame and connected to training in a specific occupation, occupational cluster, or career pathway.</p> <p>*When youth are enrolled in academic or occupational skills training in WIOA programs, they must be assisted in earning an industry recognized credential and demonstrating a measurable skill gain.</p>

<p>6. Leadership development opportunities, which may include community service and peer-centered activities encouraging responsibility and other positive social behaviors, as appropriate;</p>	<p>Leadership development opportunities are opportunities that encourage responsibility, confidence, employability, self-determination, and other positive social behaviors such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Exposure to postsecondary educational possibilities;</li> <li>(b) Community and service learning projects;</li> <li>(c) Peer-centered activities, including peer mentoring and tutoring;</li> <li>(d) Organizational and teamwork training, including team leadership training;</li> <li>(e) Training in decision-making, including determining priorities and problem solving;</li> <li>(f) Citizenship training, including life skills training such as parenting and work behavior training;</li> <li>(g) Civic engagement activities which promote the quality of life in a community; and</li> <li>(h) Other leadership activities that place youth in a leadership role such as serving on youth leadership committees. (CFR § 681.520)</li> </ul>
<p>7. Supportive services</p>	<p>Services such as transportation, clothing and/or uniforms, equipment/tools, drug testing, and reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities, that are necessary to enable an individual to participate in activities authorized under WIOA.</p> <p>Supportive services may also be provided to youth in follow up once they are exited from the program.</p>
<p>8. Adult mentoring for the period of participation and a subsequent period, for a total of not less than 12 months;</p>	<p>(a) Adult mentoring for youth must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Last at least 12 months and may take place both during the program and following exit from the program;</li> <li>(2) Be a formal relationship between a youth participant and an adult mentor that</li> </ul>

	<p>includes structured activities where the mentor offers guidance, support, and encouragement to develop the competence and character of the mentee; and</p> <p>(3) While group mentoring activities and mentoring through electronic means are allowable as part of the mentoring activities, at a minimum, the local youth program must match the youth with an individual mentor with whom the youth interacts on a face-to-face basis.</p> <p>(b) Mentoring may include workplace mentoring where the local program matches a youth participant with an employer or employee of a company.</p>
<p>9. Follow-up services</p>	<p>Follow-up services are critical services provided following a youth's exit from the program to help ensure the youth is successful in employment and/or postsecondary education and training. Follow-up services may include regular contact with a youth participant's employer, including assistance in addressing work-related problems that arise. Required Follow-up services for WIOA Youth participants include at a minimum quarterly contact with each participant for a full 12 months following the program exit date.</p>
<p>10. Comprehensive guidance and counseling, which may include drug and alcohol abuse counseling and referral, as appropriate;</p>	<p>Comprehensive guidance and counseling provide individualized counseling to participants. In addition to drug and alcohol, this may include counseling for mental health, or a coordinated referral to an appropriate partner. If referred, coordination between provider and agency is necessary for continuity of service.</p>
<p>11. Financial literacy education;</p>	<p>Activities included in this program element may support in the ability to create budgets, initiate checking and savings accounts at banks, manage spending, and</p>

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	teach participants about the significance of credit scores.
12. Entrepreneurial skills training;	<p>Entrepreneurial skills training provides the basics of starting and operating a small business.</p> <p>Skills associated with entrepreneurship may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Taking initiative</li> <li>2) Creatively seeking out and identifying 12 business opportunities and</li> <li>3) Developing budgets.</li> </ol>
13. Services that provide labor market information, such as career awareness, counseling, and exploration;	May include the identification and/or analysis of topics such as employment, unemployment, local employment dynamics, and occupational projections.
14. Activities that help youth prepare for and transition to post-secondary education and training.	May include SAT/ACT test preparation, exploring education options including technical training schools and community colleges, or providing support with financial aid applications.