ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNT POLICY

Adopted by the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board: September 9, 2015

September 9, 2015 ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD Resolution No. 15-I09-15

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE AND ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, CONTRACTS AND LEASES/SUBLEASES, ADOPTED BUDGETS AND OTHER FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, TOGETHER WITH ALL OTHER CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS, FROM THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

WHEREAS, coming into compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) requires that Workforce Investment Boards become Workforce Development Boards; and

WHEREAS, WIOA has mandated several other changes in the organization of Workforce Investment Boards; and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board took actions at its June 10, 2015 meeting to initiate all these changes and to transfer its WIOA-compliant operations to the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (WDB); and

WHEREAS, at its August 3, 2015 meeting the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators (BOL) took official action to replace the temporary WDB it had appointed at its July 7, 2015 meeting with membership that was fully compliant with WIOA requirements; and

WHEREAS, both the County BOL and the WDB recognize that the WDB is and should be the successor in due course to the WIB;

WHEREAS, now that a WIOA-compliant WDB is in place, it is appropriate and prudent for the WDB to officially accept and adopt the bylaws and all the policies and procedures, contracts and leases/subleases, and adopted budgets and other financial responsibilities, together with all other continuing responsibilities and powers, from the WIB; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board does hereby officially accept and adopt the bylaws and all the policies and procedures, contracts and leases/subleases, and adopted budgets and other financial responsibilities, together with all other continuing responsibilities and powers, from the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board effective on July 1, 2015 and authorizes, empowers, and directs its staff to continue to operate the workforce development system in St. Lawrence County according to the precedents established prior to July 1, 2015 when and as appropriate and consistent with WIOA.

I, Jennifer R. Free, Assistant to the Executive Director of the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that I have compared this copy of this Resolution, adopted September 9, 2015; with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

Jennifer R. Free, Assistant to the Executive Director St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board September 9, 2015

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNT APPROVAL POLICY

Section I:

Assessment and Services Process for Customers of the St. Lawrence County One-Stop Workforce Investment System

There are four (4) main service categories: (i) Job Search Ready Services; ii) Career Development Services; (iii) Job Match Services; and (iv) Self-Service.

The following represents the process by which customers will receive the services cited above:

All customers, except the Self-Service customer and Work Exempt UI customer will receive an Initial Assessment. The Initial Assessment (Attachment, Element List A) is documented in OSOS with a corresponding comment that indicates whether the customer needs Job Search Ready Services (JSRS) or Career Development Services (CDS).

The Initial Assessment (and subsequent assessments) will determine if the customer is in need of JSRS. Services may then include Job Matching Services (JMS), resume preparation, career guidance (short term), job search planning, job development contact, workforce information services when staff assisted, and orientation to the full array of services in the One-Stop system.

The Initial Assessment (and/or subsequent assessments) will determine if the customer is in need of CDS. These services may include: counseling services (significant staff time required); supportive services; prevocational services; skill development and upgrading services; occupational skills training (results in an Individual Training Account Voucher); workplace training (Work Experience); On-the-Job Training; and other intensive and training services as defined. Customers in need of CDS will work with a counselor to develop an Individual Employment Plan. All services developed under CDS will require a comprehensive assessment that builds upon the Initial Assessment and justifies the services with a "Determination of Need" for all Intensive and Training services, and has as its outcome the Individual Employment Plan.

Self-Service is not an actual service. It does not involve significant staff assistance. OSOS registration is the only requirement to receive self-service. It involves the use of any of the resources in the One-Stop Resource Room and is essentially accessed by the customer without Career Center staff assistance.

There are two (2) main types of assessments: (i) Initial Assessment and (ii) Comprehensive Assessment.

The Initial Assessment is an exploration by the Counselor utilizing the questions on the Initial Assessment document, a review of OSOS registration information, a resume review, a review of the UI Profile score and professional judgment as to whether the customer is Job Search Ready or the customer is in need of Career Development Services. The exception to this will be for the UI customer with a Profile Score between 70 and 100. Staff must then record this customer's initial assessment determinations as Career Development Services and schedule the customer for services.

Customers not possessing a relevant employment goal with the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities and/or who have a barrier to employment will be determined to be in need of Career Development Services. All others will be determined to be Job Search Ready.

The Comprehensive Assessment is developed with the information obtained from the Initial Assessment with further consultation with the customer; with career assessments; with a determination of need for Intensive and/or Training services; and with identification of those services that are most likely to overcome any barriers to employment and fill skill gaps. Furthermore, the comprehensive assessment will help the customer develop a relevant employment goal, and help the customer acquire those skills, knowledge, and credentials that will lead to meaningful employment (Attachment, Element List B).

All customers receiving Intensive and/or Training services will participate in Comprehensive Assessment. When the Comprehensive Assessment leads to any service requiring a financial commitment of WIOA Training or Training-related dollars such as an Individual Training Account of Supportive Services, strict documentation procedures will be followed with a documentation review by the WIOA Supervisor.

Section II: Individual Training Account (ITA) Approval Policy

The first stop in the approval of all Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) will be the completion of the Initial Assessment and Comprehensive Assessment as outlined under the "Assessment and Services Process for Customers of the SLC One-Stop." This provides justification for the "need" for Intensive and Training services when Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) financial Assistance is to be offered in support of a training plan.

When justification and need for training have been established and documented, **and** when funds are available, an ITA may be issued upon documentation of eligibility for one or more funding categories. The establishment of eligibility is determined by the following: (i) SLC WDB policy "Self-Sufficiency"; (ii) SLC WDB policy "Priority of Service"; and (iii) NYS WDS Technical Advisory 08-8.

The WIOA Supervisor will review all documentation regarding eligibility and all documentation necessary for issuing an ITA.

The ITA maximum amount is established by local WDB resolution. An ITA may be approved up to the WDB's established maximum. When issuing an ITA and determining the amount to be committed (up to the maximum), the following factors must be taken into consideration:

- The actual cost of tuition and training-related expenses, less any applicable grants.
- The funds available for training and the anticipated number of individuals in the local area requiring training within the program year.
- The availability of any other funding sources to help the customer meet the cost of training.

ITAs may only be issued to training agencies or institutions that are listed in the New York State Eligible Training Provider list.

ITAs may only be issued for training within an occupation that is in "demand" in either the Local Workforce Region or in demand in the area in which the customer has a viable plan of relocation. An occupation will be considered to be in demand when any of the following criteria are met:

- The occupation is currently listed on the New York State Department of Labor website for occupations in demand in the North Country Region.
- The individual provides a verifiable letter of hire from an employer that demonstrates that a job is available to this individual upon completion of training.
- The individual has a reasonably developed plan of business that is likely to lead to meaningful self-employment upon completion of training.
- The individual has a reasonable plan for relocation to a specific area in which it can be determined through the local One-Stop in that area that the occupation for which they are training is in demand.
- The Local WDB has approved, through resolution, priority of training funding for a "section" of the local economy, such as the "Green Jobs" SLC WDB Resolution 09-03-05.

All ITAs will first be approved by a career counselor trained in the policies and procedures mentioned above. A WIOA Supervisor or the Executive Director of the WDB will be required to sign the ITA before it is sent to the WDB's Fiscal Department for obligation.

SLC WDB Policy No. 3 outlines ITA maximums and guidelines. This policy should always be consulted before issuing an ITA.

Initial Assessment With Comprehensive Assessment & Individual Employment Plan

NAME: DATE:

- I. <u>Presenting Need</u> (Job search assistance or Career Development Services):
- II. Comment on individuals stated or tested interests and aptitudes:
- III. <u>Ability & Skills:</u> (Be specific regarding relevancy to labor market and need for an upgrade to current skills or development of new skills):
- IV. Employment History: (Comment on last 10 years):
 - a. <u>Job Search:</u> (Is the person ready to seek work? Skills based resume? Able to seek work electronically and in person? Good interviewing skills?):
 - b. Working with any other agencies:
- V. <u>Health:</u> (any employment restrictions?):
- VI. <u>Financial Situation:</u> (Does this person have resources to support themselves while in training or while seeking work?):
- VII. Support Services Necessary:
- VIII. <u>Additional barriers to employment:</u> for example: age, legal issues, lack of basic skills, lack of transportation (gas money, license), lack of childcare (money, provider), employment related health concerns for themselves or family members, etc.:
- IX. Resume:

Core Services Provided		
Assessment Interview, Initial Assessment	Date Provided	
Counseling – Career Guidance	Date Provided	
Job Search Planning	Date Provided	
Resume Preparation Assistance	Date Provided	
Bonding Assistance	Date Provided	_
Job Development Contact	Date Provided	
Job Search Planning	Date Provided	
Job Search Workshop	Date Provided	
Workforce Information Services Staff Assisted (LMI)	Date Provided	_
Orientation (Other)	Date Provided	_
Orientation (Rapid Response)	Date Provided	
Referral to Outside Job Listing	Date Provided	Arrantona.
Comprehensive A Determination of New and/or Training	ed for Intensive	
Check all that apply: Customer has skills that are not competitive in the local	labor market.	
Customer has little or no work history.		
Customer has conducted an extensive, independent, and search and is unable to find employment.	staff assisted job	
Customer has significant barrier(s) to employment.		
Customer is employed, but has not achieved self-sufficient	ency.	
Customer is unemployed or has not achieved self-sufficitationing and training is available.	iency, and is in need of	
Customer is not benefiting from information-only service	ees.	
Customer is deficient in one or more basic skill areas to	include computers skills.	
Customer has entered employment, but requires support	to retain employment.	
Customer is in need of skills upgrading to improve upo advance to a job requiring a higher level of skill.	on an existing skill or to	
Customer is in need of retraining to reflect a response to The purpose is skill or knowledge development that may occupation.		
Trade Act Eligible (see Employment Plan)		
Trade Act Waiver		

Determination of Self-Sufficiency

Customer is:	Employed	Unemployed	
If employed, determi	nation of self-sufficiency standard work No \(\square\) Not Applicable \(\square\)	sheet has been com	apleted and is attached:
Customer is:	is not self-sufficient	Not Applica	ble 🗌
	Intensive Services Pr	<u>rovided</u>	
Assessment – Compr	rehensive	Date Provided	
Counseling – Intensiv	ve	Date Provided	
Individual Employme	ent Plan (IEP)	Date Provided	
Short-term Pre-vocat	ional Skills (prepare for Employment	Date Provided	
or Training)			
Test Administration		Date Provided	
Supportive Services			
Job Coaching		Date Provided	And the same of th
Needs Related	•	Date Provided	*******
Supportive Services	:		
Child Care	1.5	Date Provided	
Books, Fees a	and Supplies	Date Provided	1
Housing		Date Provided	
Transportation	n	Date Provided	
Other	4: 6 :	Date Provided	
Referred to St	apportive Services	Date Provided	Managadoris sacre
	<u>Training Service</u>	<u>es</u>	
_	e Learning with Related Instruction	Date Provided	
Entrepreneurial Train	•	Date Provided	*****
Occupational Skills T		Date Provided	
Skills Upgrading and	-	Date Provided	
	perated by the Private Sector	Date Provided	
Workplace Training (Date Provided	According to the contract of t
Academic Learning*	,	Date Provided	
Basic Skills/Life Skil		Date Provided	
English as a Second I	Language"	Date Provided	***************************************
Literacy Training*		Date Provided	
Mobility Training* Work Polytod/Job Po	andinaga Training*	Date Provided	
Work-Related/Job Re	aumess training.	Date Provided	
On-the-Job Training Customized Training		Date Provided	
Customized Hamming		Date Provided	

^{*}Intensive/Training: These are intensive services that can be considered training only if linked to an ITA or non-ITA training by Program Service Type on NYOSOS/Services Module/Services Screen.

Individual Employment Plan (IEP)

Employment Goal:		
Goal Justification:		
Outlook for Occupational Goal:		
Plan Date:		
Goal #1:		
Training Provider:		
Location:		
Start Date:		
Anticipated Completion Date:		
Actual Completion Date:		
Outcome:		
Certification Received: N/A Yes No		
Estimated Training Cost:		
On-the-Job Contract Cost:		
Supportive Services		
Child Care:		
Transportation:		
Meals/Lodging:		
Books, Fees and Supplies:		
Other:		

December 11, 2013 ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD Resolution No. 13-12-17

AMENDING POLICY NO. 3: DETERMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS UNDER THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2003 the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) passed Resolution No. 03-02-05 (Policy No. 3) approving \$8,000 as the maximum amount allowable for an Individual Training Account (ITA), and

WHEREAS, the resources available to the WIB have been steadily reduced since 2003, resulting in ITAs that have averaged about half of the maximum during the last two years, and

WHEREAS, the gap between the maximum and the actual ITA has become so wide that the WIB has decided to revise its ITA policy, and

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board approves amending Policy No. 3 by decreasing to \$4,000 the maximum amount allowable for an ITA in any program year (defined as July 1- June 30), subject to the following additional understandings and requirements:

- No recipient is guaranteed the maximum;
- The WIB's Executive Director (or his/her designee) is authorized to authorize ITAs in excess of the maximum in special cases based on his/her judgment, which shall take into consideration at least the following criteria:
 - o The proposed skills to be attained;
 - Whether those skills are directly related to priority occupations;
 - O Degree of shortage of the skills to be attained;
 - Whether the skills are In demand by a targeted industry; and
 - o Available funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other conditions of Policy No. 3 shall remain in full force and effect.

[WIB Action: Approved 12/11/13; Blevins/Sutton; 12 ayes/0 nays/2 abstention]

I, Lori A. Barr, Secretary I of the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that I have compared this copy of this Resolution, adopted December 11, 2013; with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

Our Labor Market Analyst has identified "occupations with the most expected hiring in the North Country", identified by an *. He has also projected those occupations that have very favorable and favorable employment prospects in the North Country through 2020; all of the occupations listed below have met this criterion. Based on his research the following is a priority listing of the local area's demand occupation for PY 2013, including O*NET codes. This list is categorized by those significant industries identified by our Labor Market Analyst and by selected Goals of the REDC Strategic Plan:

Health Care, both hospital and ambulatory care (Significant Industry)	
1. Registered Nurses*	21-1141
2. Licensed Practical Nurses	21-2061
3. Nurse Aides*	31-1014
4. Medical and Health Services Managers	11-9111
5. Physical Therapy Assistants	31-2021
6. Dental Hygienists	
7. Medical Secretaries	43-6013
8. Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	29-2091
9. Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselor	21-1011
10. Home Health Aides*	31-1011
11. Medical Assistants	31-9092
12. Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	29-2099
13. Phlebotomist	
14. Pharmacy Technician	29-2052
Public Administration (Significant industry)	
15. Social and Human Service Assistants	21-1093
16. Computer Support Specialist	15-1151
17. Accountants and Auditors*	
18. Billing and Posting Clerks	43-3021
19. Bookkeeping, Accounting and Auditing Clerks	43-3031
20. Secretaries (not Legal, Medical or Executive)	
21. Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	
22. Environmental Science and Protection Technician	19-4091
23. Paralegal/Legal Assistants	23-2011
Educational Services (Significant Industry)	
24. Special Education Teachers, Middle School	25-2053
General Merchandise Store (Significant Industry)	
25. Retail Sales Persons*	41-2031
26. Cashiers*	
27. Stock Clerk and Order Fillers*	
28. Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor Trailer*	
29. Truck Drivers, Light and Delivery Services*	
Leisure and Hospitality (Significant Industry)	
30. Cooks, Restaurant*	35-2014
31. Food Preparation Workers*	
32. Cooks, Short Order	
33. Bartenders*	35-3011
34. First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation Workers	

Goals of REDC: Build on growth in Manufacturing Industries; and Create a Green Er	nergy Economy
35. Customer Service Representatives*	
36. Electricians*	43-4051
37. Maintenance and Repair Workers, General*	
38. Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters*	47-3015
39. Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installer	
40. Helpers - Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers	49-9098
41. General Operations Manager	11-1021
42. Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	41-4012
43. Construction Manager*	11-9021
44. Engineers, all others	
45. Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	51-4121
46. Industrial Engineering Technicians	17-3026
Goal of REDC: Propagate an Agricultural Revolution	
47. Farm Workers	
48. Agricultural Equipment Operators	45-2091
49. Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	
50. Laborers & Freight, Stockers, Material Movers	53-7062
Miscellaneous Occupations with favorable Employment Prospects for the North Cour	ntry Region
51. Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics*	49-3023
52. Janitors and Cleaners*	37-2011
53. Receptionists and Information Clerks*	43-4171
54. Construction Laborers*	
55. Radiological Technologists and Technicians	29-2034
56. Civil Engineer	

In addition to the above, the LWIA Believes that any occupation for which an On-the-Job training contract is developed and that meets the minimum standard hourly wage that is 35% above the minimum wage meets the definition of a priority in-demand occupation in the local area.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER

APPLICANT STATEMENT/ SELF ATTESTATION DETERMINATION OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD FOR PROVIDING SERVICES FOR EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT AMENDED AND RESTATED 03/12/2009

Name:		
	I am currently employed full-tin	ne (30 or more hours per week)
	I am currently employed part-ti	me; I work hours per week.
My Pr	rrent per hour wage is e-Layoff hourly wage was: lf-Employment Net Income is	\$ \$ \$
	1 2	(which is equal to or higher than \$17.51 per hour) and I have an active
	ning this document, I am self- the above statements are true to	attesting, under penalty of perjury, that: the best of my knowledge.
Custon	ner Signature	Date
or mor (annua An ind sufficie sufficie above. Federa	e hours per week), with an individual published, 225% Poverty Level ividual who has an active Cash Puent regardless of hourly wage as cent if the net self-employment inc A Displaced Homemaker is constant of Poverty Level as stated above.	relopment Board defines self-sufficiency as employed on a full-time basis (i.e. 30 ual applicant's wage equal to or higher than 225% of the Federal Poverty Level for a family of 1 divided by 52 weeks, and then divided by 30 hours per week). blic Assistance, Food Stamps, and/or Medicaid Case will be considered not self-described above. An individual who is self-employed shall be considered self-ome is equal to or more than 225% of the Federal Poverty Level as described idered self-sufficient if their current wage is equal to or more than 225% of the Self-sufficiency for a dislocated worker is defined as an individual applicant's tent at or above 90% of the individual's pre-layoff hourly wage.
	Sufficiency for Adults: For 2018 17.51 and are regularly employed	an adult is considered self-sufficient if their hourly wage is equal to or higher 130 or more hours per week.
	The customer is <u>not self-suffici</u>	ent: and is therefore eligible for WIOA Intensive Services.
	The customer is self-sufficient:	and is therefore not eligible for WIOA Intensive Services.
* Self-	Sufficiency for Dislocated Works	ers
	The customer is not self-suffici	ent: and is therefore eligible for WIOA Intensive Services.
	The customer is <u>self-sufficient</u> :	and is therefore not eligible for WIOA Intensive Services.
Couns	selor Signature	Date

Jobs for Veterans Determination Worksheet

Customer's Name				
Participant ID Number (is any)				
Are You a Veteran?	YES	NO		
If "YES" Did you serve in the active military, naval or air service?			Yes	No
•	diahananahla?			
Were you discharged or released under conditions other than If the customer can answer "Yes" to both of these questions,		 a	Yes	No
"covered person" under the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA).	then ne/sne quanties as	a		
Are you married to a Veteran?	YES	NO		
If "YES" Does your spouse have a total disability resulting from a serv	vice-connected disability	? _	Yes	No
Is your spouse listed as forcibly detained or interned by a for in action or captured in the line of duty, and has been so liste			Yes	No
If the customer can answer "Yes" to <u>either</u> of these questions "covered person" under the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA)	s, then he/she qualifies as	s a		
Are you a surviving spouse of a Veteran?	YES	NO		
If "YES"			Vas	No
Did your spouse die of a service-connected disability?			Yes _	No
Did your spouse die while a total disability resulting from a s was in existence?	service-connected disabil	lity -	Yes _	No
If the customer can answer "Yes" to <u>either</u> of these questions "covered person" under the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA)	s, then he/she qualifies as	s a		
DETERMINATION Based on the information proved to me by the customer, I have determined to the customer.	mined that this individual		<u></u>	
ISIS NOT a cove	ered person under the J	ob for Veterai	ıs Act.	
		/	/	
Workforce Professional	and the second s	Date /		



St. Lawrence County One-Stop Career Center

Date

Human Services Center 80 State Highway 310 Suite 8, Canton, New York 13617-1498 Telephone: (315) 386-3276 Fax: (315) 386-3414 www.slconestop.com Equal Opportunity Program

Individual Training Account Voucher

NOTICE TO ELIGIBLE PROVIDER

(<u>Training Provider</u>) has been <u>certified</u> as an Eligible Training Provider (ETP) under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) by the State of New York and the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board (WIB).

(<u>Customer Name</u>) investigating the possibility of enrolling for instruction in the occupational field of (<u>Name of training program/ occupational goal</u>), provide the customer with information about your training facility/school and answer any questions the customer may have regarding the curriculum, accreditation, financial assistance, program costs, placement rates, and average starting salaries for the above referenced field.

This notice is not a contract for training services but rather an assurance that an Individual Training Account (ITA) has been approved for this customer in an amount not to exceed the actual program tuition or \$4,000.00 whichever is less, for enrollment into only the approved occupational skills training field/program indicated above.

NOTICE TO WIA CUSTOMER

This ITA Voucher is valid from through _____ (cannot exceed current program year). determined that the training facility/school can best meet your needs, enrollment can occur only after an agreement has been made by a Customer, Case Manager/Counselor and a Senior Counselor/WIA Supervisor with the training institution. "Any alterations or changes will render this voucher null and void." PAYMENT PROCEDURE All other eligible financial resources are to be used prior to incurring costs on this authorized local Individual Training Account. Payment processes and tuition retrieval procedures will reflect those used by the training institution in the conduct of their normal operation, i.e. one-time payment or incremental payments based on normal billing procedures. Payments will be made directly by the Workforce Investment Board's fiscal agent, St. Lawrence County, to the training institution on behalf of the sponsored student per the Workforce Investment Act Policies and Procedures for Customers Enrolled in Classroom Training. Signature of Customer Date Signature of WIA Case Manager/Counselor Date

Signature of Senior Counselor/WIA Supervisor

September 30, 2009 ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD Resolution No. 09-09-20

Executive Committee: 09/30/2009

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNT (ITA) APPROVAL POLICY

WHEREAS, with the Federal government's increased investment in workforce development, there is a clear expectation that the One-Stop system will increase the number of individuals receiving training services, and that implementation of an ITA policy will optimize the system's training approval process, ensure seamless delivery of service, and enhance the system's capacity to target resources for training in priority demand occupations, and

WHEREAS, NYS Workforce Development System Technical Advisory 09-2 outlined the establishment of a Individual Training Account policy as a mechanism to fund training, and

WHEREAS, the policy is intended to expedite and streamline the delivery of training services through the Workforce Investment One-Stop system by ensuring that customers identified with skills gaps (and having a training program to remediate the skills gap) are quickly approved for an ITA, to the extent that other mechanisms for providing the training are not available, and

WHEREAS, the policy also outlines necessary procedures so that staff who have responsibility for providing comprehensive assessment services also have the knowledge and authority to develop an ITA and submit it for funding approval, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board (SLCWIB) does hereby adopt the attached "Individual Training Account Approval Policy."

Pursuant to WIB Bylaws, Article IX, Section 2:

[WIB Executive Committee Approval: 09/30/2009: Daddario/Caswell; 5/0/0]

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNT APPROVAL POLICY

Approved September 30, 2009 (Resolution 09/09/20)

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All customers receiving Intensive and/or Training services will participate in Comprehensive Assessment. When the Comprehensive Assessment leads to any service requiring a financial commitment of WIA Training or Training-related dollars such as an Individual Training Account or Supportive Services, strict documentation procedures will be followed with a documentation review by the One-Stop Manager or Senior Employment Coordinator.

Section II: Individual Training Account (ITA) Approval Policy

The first step in the approval of all Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) will be the completion of the Initial Assessment and Comprehensive Assessment as outlined under the "Assessment and Services Process for Customers of the SLC One-Stop." This provides justification for the "need" for Intensive and Training services when Workforce Investment Act (WIA) financial assistance is to be offered in support of a training plan.

When justification and need for training have been established and documented, **and** when funds are available, an ITA may be issued upon documentation of eligibility for one or more funding categories. The establishment of eligibility is determined by the following: (i) SLC WIB policy "Self-Sufficiency"; (ii) SLC WIB policy "Priority of Service" and (iii) NYS WDS Technical Advisory 08-8.

The Senior Employment Coordinator or the One-Stop Manager will review all documentation regarding eligibility and all documentation necessary for issuing an ITA.

The ITA maximum amount is established by local WIB resolution. An ITA may be approved up to the WIB's established maximum. When issuing an ITA and determining the amount to be committed (up to the maximum), the following factors must be taken into consideration:

- The actual cost of tuition and training-related expenses, less any applicable grants.
- The funds available for training and the anticipated number of individuals in the local area requiring training within the program year.
- The availability of any other funding sources to help the customer meet the cost of training.

ITAs may only be issued to training agencies or institutions that are listed in the New York State Eligible Training Provider list.

ITAs may only be issued for training within an occupation that is in "demand" in either the Local Workforce Region or in demand in the area in which the customer has a viable plan of relocation. An occupation will be considered to be in demand when any of the following criteria are met:

- The occupation is currently listed on the New York State Department of Labor website for occupations in demand in the North Country Region.
- The individual provides a verifiable letter of hire from an employer that demonstrates that a job is available to this individual upon completion of training.
- The individual has a reasonably developed plan of business that is likely to lead to meaningful self-employment upon completion of training.
- The individual has a reasonable plan for relocation to a specific area in which it can be determined through the local One-Stop in that area that the occupation for which they are training is in demand.
- The Local WIB has approved, through resolution, priority of training funding for a "section" of the local economy, such as the "Green Jobs" SLC WIB Resolution 09-03-05.

All ITAs will first be approved by a career counselor training in the policies and procedures mentioned above. The Senior Employment Coordinator, One-Stop Manager, or the Executive Director of the WIB will be required to sign the ITA before it is sent to the WIB's Fiscal Department for obligation.

SLC WIB Policy No. 3 outlines ITA maximums and guidelines. This policy should always be consulted before issuing an ITA.

Initial Assessment, with Comprehensive Assessment and Individual Employment Plan
(Document Elements)
Name
Date
Presenting Need
Comment
Ability & Skills
Employment History
Job Search
Working with Any Other Agencies
Health
Financial Situation
Support Services
Additional Barriers
Resume

(Element List B)

Core Services Provided (Document Elements)
Assessment Interview, Initial Assessment
Counseling – Career Guidance
Job Search Planning
Resume Preparation Assistance
Bonding Assistance
Job Development Contact
Job Search Planning
Job Search Workshop
Workforce Information Services, Staff Assisted LMI
Orientation (other)
Orientation (Rapid Response)
Referral to Outside Job Listing

Comprehensive Assessment: Determination of Need for Intensive and/or Training Services (Document Elements)

Customer has skills that are not competitive in the local labor market.

Customer has little or no work history.

Customer has conducted an extensive, independent and staff-assisted job search and is unable to find employment.

Customer has significant barrier(s) to employment.

Customer is employed, but has not achieved self-sufficiency.

Customer is unemployed or has not achieved self-sufficiency, and is in need of training and training is available.

Customer is not benefiting from information-only services.

Customer is deficient in one or more basic skill areas to include computer skills.

Customer has entered employment, but requires support to retain employment.

Customer is in need of skills upgrade to improve upon an existing skill or to advance to a job requiring a higher level of skill.

Customer is in need of training to reflect a response to a change in the economy. The purpose is skill or knowledge development that may lead to a new occupation.

Trade Act Eligible (See Employment Plan)

Trade Act Waiver

Determinatio	n of Self-Sufficiency (Document Elements)	
Customer is:	Employed? Unemployed?	
If employed,	determination of self-sufficiency standard worksheet has been completed and	is
attached.	Yes, No, N/A	
Customer	Is Self Sufficient? Is Not Self Sufficient? N/A	

Intensive Services Provided (Document Elements)
Assessment – Comprehensive
Counseling – Intensive
Individual Employment Plan (IEP)
Short-term pre-vocational skills (prepare for employment or training)
Test Administration
Job Coaching
Needs-Related Payments
Child Care
Dependent Care
Housing
Transportation
Other
Referred to Supportive Services

Training Services Provided (Document Elements)
Combined Workplace Learning with Related Instruction
Entrepreneurial Training
Occupational Skills Training (ITA)
Skills Upgrading and Retraining
Training Programs Operated by the Private Sector
Workplace Training (Work Experience)
Academic Learning * (Prerequisite course)
Basic Skills / Life Skills * (e.g. APC)
English as a Second Language *
Literacy Training *
Mobility Training *
Work-Related/ Job Readiness Training *
On-the-Job Training
Customized Training

* Intensive/Training: These are intensive services that can be considered training only if linked to an ITA or non-ITA training by Program Service Type on NY OSOS/Services Module/Services Screen

Individual Employment Plan (Document Elements)
Employment Goal
Goal Justification
Plan Date
Goal #1
Training Provider
Location
Start Date
Anticipated Completion Date
Actual Completion Date
Outcome
Certification Received
Estimated Training Cost
On-the-Job Training Cost
Supportive Services
Child Care
Transportation
Meals/Lodging
Needs-Related Payments
Other