



JUN - 6 2013

The Honorable Edmund J. Brown  
Governor of California  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is pleased to respond to your requests for waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, Subtitles B and E, and sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act. The original requests are written in the format identified in WIA section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c), and meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). The following is the disposition of the State's waiver requests (copy enclosed).

Requested Waiver: Waiver of performance measures for youth participants in summer youth employment activities and co-enrolled in TANF and WIA programs.

The State has requested an extension of the waiver of the common performance measures for youth who participate in subsidized summer youth employment activities that utilize Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds and are co-enrolled in WIA-funded youth programs. The requested waiver is approved and allows the State to use the work readiness indicator as the only indicator of performance for youth co-enrolled in WIA Youth and TANF programs and participating in subsidized summer youth employment activities. The waiver is effective from May 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013. This waiver applies only to WIA Youth performance requirements; the State must comply with any reporting requirements established through TANF. This waiver does not apply to WIA youth participating in program elements beyond summer employment and supportive services.

Requested Waiver: Waiver to provide program design flexibility in serving youth participants in summer youth employment activities and co-enrolled in TANF and WIA programs.

The State has requested a waiver of certain provisions under WIA Sec. 129(c) and 20 CFR 664 to allow Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) staff increased flexibility in program design. Through this waiver, the State will be able to provide program design flexibility in serving youth who participate in subsidized summer youth employment activities that utilize TANF funds and are co-enrolled in WIA-funded youth programs.

The requested waiver is approved. Specifically, the State is granted a waiver of statutory and regulatory provisions as follows:

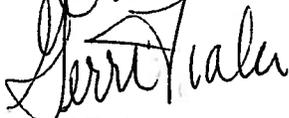
- Waiver of the requirement at WIA section 129(c)(2)(I) and 20 CFR 664.450(b) to provide a minimum of 12 months of follow-up services, to allow local areas to provide follow-up services with WIA Youth funds as deemed appropriate for such youth participants.
- Waiver of the requirement at WIA section 129(c)(1)(A) and 20 CFR 664.405(a)(1) to provide an objective assessment and the requirement at WIA section 129(c)(1)(B) and 20 CFR 664.405(a)(2) to develop an individual service strategy (ISS), to allow local areas to provide an assessment or ISS as deemed appropriate for such youth participants.

The approved waivers are in effect from May 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013, and only apply to youth co-enrolled in WIA Youth and TANF programs and participating in subsidized summer youth employment activities. Youth transitioning to year-round WIA Youth services after September 30, 2013 must have in place an objective assessment and individual service strategy as required by WIA. The State may not apply these waivers to summer youth employment activities funded solely with WIA formula funds.

The approved waivers are incorporated by reference into the State's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and this constitutes a modification of the State Plan. A copy of this letter should be filed with the State's WIA Grant Agreement and the approved State Plan. In addition, as required by TEG L No. 29-11, the State should address the impact this waiver has had on the State's performance in the WIA annual performance report, due on October 1 of each year.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce outcomes. If you have any questions related to the issues discussed above, please contact Carol Padovan, the Federal Project Officer for California, at (415) 625-7946 and [Padovan.Carol@dol.gov](mailto:Padovan.Carol@dol.gov).

Sincerely,



Gerri Fiala  
Acting Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Virginia Hamilton, Regional Administrator, ETA San Francisco Regional Office  
Carol Padovan, Federal Project Officer for California

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)  
WAIVER REQUEST**

**Waiver Relating to Performance Measures for Summer Youth Activities Funded  
by WIA and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

The California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) and the Employment Development Department (EDD), as the administrative entity of the WIA, submit this request for a waiver to the use of Common Measures for Youth enrolled in summer employment activities funded in conjunction with TANF funds.

In keeping with the guidelines set forth at WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 Code of Federal Regulations Part 661.420(c), please accept the following as a request for waiver.

The State Board respectfully requests a waiver to common measures for youth to allow the State to use the work readiness indicator as the only performance measure for youth co-enrolled in WIA and TANF summer employment activities. The Common Measures waiver was granted to the State on December 11, 2007 and extended through September 30, 2012. This waiver request would permit the work readiness indicator to be used during the period May 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

**A. Statutory or Regulatory Requirements to be Waived**

Common Measures for Youth specified in Employment and Training Agency Training and Employment Guidance Letter 17-05 and approved for use by California on December 11, 2007.

**B. Goals of the Waiver and Expected Programmatic Outcomes if Waiver is Granted**

The (2) youth waivers that were approved for the May 1, 2012 through the September 30, 2012 time period were utilized and instrumental in the success of the Summer Youth Program. The 2012 Summer Program had an enrollment rate of 1,700 youth that were co-enrolled in both WIA and TANF and all 1,700 of these youth participants obtained summer jobs. It was through the leveraging of TANF funds that the Summer Program was able to be augmented to better serve the needs of Los Angeles County's youth. These waivers allowed Los Angeles County to focus on work readiness indicators in addition to allowing the State Board and its local areas to offer youth the unique opportunity to explore work experiences that may not have been possible without the pooling of WIA and TANF funds. Without this waiver, the performance requirements would impede the true intent of this summer employment program as concerns over performance would overshadow the great opportunities and choices given to California's youth during these challenging economic times.

It is anticipated that at minimum, the County will be able to serve approximately 700 youth given there is no change in the set-aside amount of \$1.1 million. Los Angeles County will continue to seek out other funding opportunities to increase summer employment opportunities youth. Last year's estimates were set at 700, although 1,700 youth participants were served. It is the goal of the program to once again meet or exceed the 700 participant expectations.

It is anticipated that less than 10 percent of the youth served under this waiver will continue on with the WIA program beyond the summer period. For those older youth that are not expected to return to school, individual service plans and strategies will be documented and the participants will be enrolled in WIA Adult programs or provided further education and training under WIA youth funded activities.

Local areas will be receiving their Program Year (PY) 2013-14 Youth allocations and significant TANF funding, if leveraged strategically, this funding can also be used to provide subsidized summer employment opportunities to youth. TANF agencies are encouraged to pool their resources with local areas to provide programs for low-income and at-risk youth. By applying this flexibility to programs funded in conjunction with TANF funds, local areas will have the option to combine all available funding resources, and therefore work cooperatively with TANF agencies to craft and provide the best summer youth employment programs possible.

Allowing the local areas this flexibility will in turn allow them to use more of their resources to focus on the critical goal of offering at-risk youth with subsidized summer employment activities, without creating new administrative burdens.

This waiver becomes even more critical as the youth employment opportunities have continued to remain low during this time of economic downturn. The need still exists for continued outreach and opportunity. If this waiver is granted, the local areas and TANF agencies will be able to expeditiously serve low income participants as well as those with barriers to employment, such as out-of-school youth and those most at risk of dropping out; youth in and aging out of foster care; youth offenders and those at risk of court involvement; homeless and runaway youth; children of incarcerated parents; migrant youth; Indian and Native American youth; and youth with disabilities. The local areas will offer supportive services, occupational skills training, and other relevant services youth this summer.

#### **C. State or Local Statutory or Regulatory Barriers**

There are no State or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver.

#### **D. Description of Individuals Impacted by the Waiver**

Youth participants ages 16-21 are impacted by this waiver request. In addition, the local areas, local TANF agencies and their business partners that employ the eligible youth will be impacted. Only youth participants co-enrolled in both the WIA youth program and TANF will be affected by this waiver. Currently, the requested waiver will only affect the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Area. If other local areas desire to utilize the waiver, they will be required to submit separate requests to EDD.

It is anticipated that where these TANF and local area partnerships are formed and already operating, both the WIA youth funds and TANF funds will be used to pay wages for youth this summer. Some of these youth will be eligible for both funding sources and may be co-enrolled in both programs. Each youth will meet the eligible criteria for their appropriate funding source (age, eligibility, etc.). Additionally, both WIA and TANF funding will be used to pay youth wages plus contractor costs to run and supervise the youth as appropriate.

#### **E. Opportunity for Public Comment and the Process for Monitoring Implementation of the Waiver**

Due to the expediency required to implement this program and effect these summer youth programs and the youth served by them, the waiver was publicized for public comment for 15 calendar days. No public comments were received.

If this waiver is approved, youth who are in need of additional services under WIA shall have the justification documented in their individual service plans and will be enrolled into other experiences such as WIA youth services or co-enrolled into a WIA Adult program or service.

The State Board and the EDD, as the administrative entity of the WIA in California, will monitor all summer youth employment programs. The State's current monitoring policy/procedures will be modified to include a review of the appropriate youth participant plans.

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)  
WAIVER REQUEST**

**Waiver Relating to Program Design Flexibility for Summer Youth Activities**

The California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) and the Employment Development Department (EDD), as the administrative entity of the WIA, submit this request for a waiver to apply the program design flexibility for summer youth outlined in Training and Employment Notice 35-11 for youth enrolled in summer employment activities funded with WIA youth formula allocations in conjunction with Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF) monies.

In keeping with the guidelines set forth at WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 Code of Federal Regulations Part 661.420(c), please accept the following as a request for waiver.

**A. Statutory or Regulatory Requirements to be Waived**

The State Board respectfully requests a waiver of the required program elements in WIA Section 129(c)(2). The waiver would apply to youth co-enrolled in summer youth employment activities funded by WIA youth formula allocations in conjunction with TANF monies.

**B. Goals of the Waiver and Expected Programmatic Outcomes if Waiver is Granted**

The goal of this waiver request is to provide the local areas with the flexibility to determine the type and level of assessment to be included in an Individual Service Strategy (ISS) for youth participating in a summer youth employment activity during the summer months only and if the 12 month follow-up will be appropriate for these youth participants.

If this waiver is granted, the local areas and TANF agencies will be able to expeditiously serve low income participants as well as those with barriers to employment, such as out-of-school youth and those most at risk of dropping out; youth in and aging out of foster care; youth offenders and those at risk of court involvement; homeless and run-away youth; children of incarcerated parents; migrant youth; Indian and Native American youth; and youth with disabilities. The local areas will offer supportive services, occupational skills training, and other relevant services for youth this summer.

Overall, the youth employment rate has continued to remain extremely low during the current economic downturn. Regular WIA youth formula funding exists and TANF funding is also available. The granting of this waiver will assist TANF entities and local areas to pool their resources to provide opportunities for low-income and at-risk youth. During the period of May 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012, approximately 1,700

youth were co-enrolled in both WIA and TANF. Through the leveraging of both of WIA and TANF dollars, L.A. County was able to augment services to better meet the needs of L.A. County's youth. All 1,700 youth obtained summer jobs. It is estimated that leveraging this funding, given the set aside of \$1.1 million remains at its current level at minimum, 700 youth should be served, although the hope is that this number will be exceeded as was the case this year.

Allowing for flexibility in assessments, ISSs, and follow-up services allows the State Board and the local areas to give youth a unique opportunity to explore work experiences that may not have been possible without the pooling of WIA and TANF ECF. Without this waiver, the assessment and follow-up requirements would impede the true intent of this summer employment program as concerns over monitoring and separation of funding streams would overshadow the great opportunities and choices given to California's youth during these challenging economic times.

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There are no State or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver.

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Youth participants ages 16 to 21 are impacted by this waiver request. In addition, the local areas, local TANF agencies and their business partners that employ the eligible youth will be impacted. Only youth co-enrolled in WIA youth programs and TANF will be affected by this waiver.

Currently, the requested waiver will only affect the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Area. If other local areas desire to use the waiver for their summer programs, they will be required to make separate requests to EDD.

It is anticipated that where these TANF and local area partnerships are formed and operating, both the WIA youth funds and TANF funds will be used to pay wages for youth this summer. Some of these youth will be eligible for both funding sources and may be co-enrolled in both programs. Each youth will meet the eligible criteria for their appropriate funding source (age, eligibility, etc.). Additionally, both WIA and TANF funding will be used to pay youth wages plus contractor costs to run and supervise the youth as appropriate.

The local areas are best positioned to make determinations and assessments of the youth participating in the summer employment opportunities. For those older youth that are not expected to return to school, individual service plans and strategies will be documented and the participants will be enrolled in WIA Adult programs or provided further education and training under WIA youth funded activities.

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If this waiver is approved, youth who are in need of additional services under WIA shall have the justification documented in their individual service plans and will be enrolled into other experiences such as WIA youth services or co-enrolled into a WIA Adult program or service.

The State Board and the EDD, as the administrative entity of the WIA in California, will monitor all summer youth employment programs. The State's current monitoring policy/procedures will be modified to include a review of the appropriate youth participant plans.

**From:** [Patterson, Daniel@CWIB](mailto:Patterson.Daniel@CWIB)  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2013 12:30:25 PM  
**Posted At:** WIA.PLAN  
**Conversation:** California's Waiver Requests for the 2013 Summer Youth Program  
**Subject:** California's Waiver Requests for the 2013 Summer Youth Program  
**Attachments:** [Youth Program Design Waiver 2013 FINAL.pdf](#)  
[Work Readiness Indicator Waiver 2013 Final.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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To Whom it May Concern;

Good afternoon.

Please find attached 2 waiver requests from the California Workforce Investment Board:

- A waiver of the common measures for youth to allow the State to use the work readiness indicator as the only performance measure for youth co-enrolled in WIA and TANF summer employment activities.
- A waiver of the required program elements in WIA Section 129(c)(2). The waiver would apply to youth co-enrolled in summer youth employment activities funded by WIA youth formula allocations in conjunction with TANF monies.

Please let me know if there are any questions. We look forward to receiving your approval.

Thank you in advance,

Danny

*Daniel K. Patterson*

California Workforce Investment Board  
WIA Policy and Administration Group  
777 12th Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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P: 916-324-2853  
F: 916-324-3068

**From:** Rhona Martinez  
**Date:** Monday, April 15, 2013 4:43:38 PM  
**Posted At:** WIA.PLAN  
**Conversation:** 2013 VI WIA State Plan  
**Subject:** 2013 VI WIA State Plan  
**Attachments:** [VI 2012 Plan.pdf](#)  
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[image001.jpg](#)

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Good Day Ms. Fleck,

Please find attached the 2012 VI WIA State Plan.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the plan, kindly contact Ms. Adele Soto at [acsoto@viaccess.net](mailto:acsoto@viaccess.net).

Thank you.

Rhona I. Martinez  
Chief of Staff

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### **C. State or Local Statutory or Regulatory Barriers**

There are no State or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver.

### **D. Description of Individuals Impacted by the Waiver**

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**E. Opportunity for Public Comment and the Process for Monitoring Implementation of the Waiver**

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Rhona I. Martinez  
Chief of Staff

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