

Region VI Workforce Development Board 17 Middletown Road White Hall, WV 26554	Classification: Youth – Definition of Youth who needs additional assistance
	Date: June 1, 2018

Region VI Guidance Letter No. 19-16, R-1

To: All WorkForce West Virginia Career Center staff
All WIOA Career Planners/Eligibility Determination Staff
All Local Service Providers

From: Region VI Workforce Development Board

Subject: Definition of youth who needs additional assistance.

1. PURPOSE: To establish local criteria for purposes of defining youth who needs additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.
2. REFERENCES WIOA Sections 129(a)(1)(B)(iii)(VIII) and (a)(1)(C)(iv)(VII) and State Unified Business Plan.
2. BACKGROUND: WIOA outlines the eligibility criteria for out of school and in school youth, one of which is “a low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.”
3. POLICY: For the purposes of determining eligibility for participation in the out of school or in school youth program, Region VI WDB defines a youth who needs additional assistance to be:
 1. Must be a low-income individual; and
 2. Must be between the ages of 14 and 24; and
 3. Require additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment; and
 4. Meet one or more of the following conditions:
 - a. Youth at risk of dropping out of school. Students at risk for dropping out display certain easily identifiable characteristics, some of which are demographic and some of which are related to their performance in school.
Factors associated with dropping out of high school:
 - Comes from low-income family lack of credits earned
 - Poor attendance
 - Members of racial or ethnic minority group
 - Poor grades (especially in core courses)
 - Older than the average student in their grade
 - Pregnant/Parenting
 - Substance Abuse
 - Youth offender
 - b. Immigrant Youth.
 - c. Youth with limited English proficiency.

d. Youth deficient in basic skills. Basic skills deficient means the individual computes or solves problems, reads, writes, or speaks English at or below the eighth-grade level or is unable to compute or solve problems, read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function of the job, in the individual's family, or in society.

e. Youth who resides in areas with high rates of poverty, crime and/or unemployment.

f. Youth who has serious barriers to employment, including but not necessarily limited to, stated current or past substance abuse, truancy, absence of positive adult role models, and diagnosed emotional disorders.

4. EFFECTIVE:

Effective June 1, 2018, until rescinded or modified by the Region VI Workforce Development Board.