



Employment Security Department

WASHINGTON STATE

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Policy Employment System Administration and Policy

Washington envisions a nationally recognized fully integrated One-Stop system with enhanced customer access to program services, improved long-term employment outcomes for job seekers and consistent, high-quality services to business customers. In order to achieve this vision, Employment System Administration and Policy sets a common direction and standards for Washington's WorkSource system through the development of WorkSource system policies, information memoranda, and technical assistance.

Policy Number: 5260, Revision 4

To: Washington WorkSource System

Effective Date: May 17, 2023

Subject: Allowable Cost and Prior Approval Requirements

1. Purpose:

To provide guidance and instructions regarding allowable cost and prior approval requirements for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA) funds.

2. Background:

The WIOA Title I rule at 20 CFR 683.200 and the "One Stop Comprehensive Financial Management Technical Assistance Guide" (TAG) provide federal direction regarding cost principles and allowable activities funded under WIOA.

Recipients and subrecipients of a federal award under Title I of WIOA and Wagner-Peyser must follow the uniform guidance at 2 CFR parts 200, 215, 255, 230 and appendices I through XI, including any exceptions identified at 2 CFR part 2900.

Commercial organizations, for profit entities, and foreign entities that are recipients and subrecipients of a federal award must follow 2 CFR part 200, including any exceptions identified by the Department under 2 CFR part 2900, and the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), including 48 CFR part 31.

3. Policy:

a. Allowable Costs

Expenditures of WIOA funds are allowable only for activities permitted by the WIOA

Title I and related regulations. Allowable activities include basic, individualized and follow-up career services, training services, and supportive services.

Allowable basic, individualized, follow-up and training services are described in WIOA Law Section 134(c) (2) and (3).

Allowable supportive services and needs-related payments funds use are described in Section 134(d) (2) and (3) and in WIOA Policy 5602 Revision 5 – Supportive Services and Needs-Related Payments.

Allowable activities for the youth program are detailed in WIOA Law Section 129.

Allowable use of incentive payments to Title I participants is described in WIOA Policy 5621 Revision 4-Incentive Payments to WIOA Title I Participants.

General principles and guidance on selected items and on allowable and unallowable costs are provided in 2 CFR Part 200; prohibited activities are specified in Sections 683.235 through 683.270 and Section 679.410 of the Rules.

As a general precaution, recipients of WIOA funds are advised to review all relevant federal documents when planning a program or expenditures.

b. **Prior Approval of Certain Costs**

Some equipment and capital expenditures are allowable only if approval is granted prior to the purchase. 20 CFR 683.200(b) (2) delegates the authority for granting prior approval for those selected items to the Governor or his designee.

20 CFR 683.235 prohibits the purchase or construction of facilities, except with the prior written approval of the Secretary.

In accordance with 2 CFR Part 230 Appendix B, Section 15, Employment Security Department requires that all entities receiving WIOA funds request and obtain prior approval for all single item equipment and capital improvement purchases that cost \$5,000 or more.

2 CFR Part 230 Appendix B Section 15 (b) (1) states:

“Capital expenditures for general purpose equipment are unallowable as a direct cost except with the prior approval of awarding agency.”

If an item requires prior approval a written request must be submitted, using the Request for Approval Form, to:

ESDGPWorkforceInitiatives@esd.wa.gov

4. Definitions:

Equipment - Tangible, non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of more than \$5,000.

Capital Expenditures – expenditures to acquire capital assets or expenditures to make

additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life.

5. **References:**

All fiscal policies and guidance letters published for WIOA are governed, as appropriate, under:

- [Public Law 113-128](#)
- [20 CFR Part 683.200](#)
- [2 CFR Part 200 - Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#)
- [2 CFR Part 215 - Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Nonprofit Organizations \(OMB Circular 110\)](#)
- [2 CFR Part 220 - Cost Principles for Educational Institutions \(A-21\)](#)
- [2 CFR Part 225 - Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian tribal Governments \(A-87\)](#)
- [2 CFR Part 230 - Cost principles for non-profit organizations \(A-122\)](#)
- [Federal Register Vol. 65, No.124, Resources Sharing for Workforce Investment Act One-Stop Centers](#)
- [Generally Accepted Accounting Principles \(GAAP\)](#)
- [WIOA Policy 5602, Rev. 5 - Supportive Services and Needs-Related Payments](#)

6. **Supersedes:**

WIOA Title I Policy 5260, Revision 3 – Allowable Cost and Prior Approval Requirements

7. **Website:**

[Workforce Professionals Center](#)

8. **Action:**

Local Workforce Development Boards and their contractors, as well as Employment Security Regional Directors, must distribute this policy broadly throughout the system to ensure that WorkSource System staff are familiar with its content and requirements.

9. **Attachment:**

[Attachment A – Word Version](#)

[Attachment A – PDF Version](#)

Direct Prior Approval Inquiries To:

*Grants Management Office
Employment System Policy and Integrity Division
Employment Security Department
PO Box 9046
Olympia, WA 98507
ESDGPWorkforceInitiatives@esd.wa.gov*

Direct Other Inquiries To:

*Employment System Administration and Policy
Employment System Policy and Integrity Division
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P.O. Box 9046
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