

Workforce Investment Act Policy WorkSource Standards & Integration Division

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, the WorkSource Standards & Integration Division sets a common direction and standards for Washington's WorkSource system through the development of WorkSource system policies, information notices, and technical assistance.

Policy Number: 3451, Revision 3

To: Washington WorkSource System

Date of Publication: August 30, 2012

Subject: Funds Transfer Between Adult and Dislocated Worker Grants Under WIA

1. Purpose:

To provide guidance on the transfer of funds between the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, including the current transfer limits that are in place.

2. Background:

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) provides the authority for Workforce Development Councils (WDCs), with approval from the Governor, to transfer up to 20% of funds between the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. The 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act clarifies that this transfer limit is now 30%.

3. Policy:

WDCs may transfer up to 30% of a program year's base allocation (see definition) for adult employment and training activities to dislocated worker activities or up to 30% of a base allocation for dislocated worker activities to adult activities.

The following restrictions apply:

- Before making any such transfer, a WDC must first obtain written approval from the Employment Security Department (ESD), on behalf of the Governor; and
- A WDC may not transfer funds to or from the youth programs. [20 CFR 667.140(a)-(c); and Sec. (1)(C) of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 (Division F, Title I)]

Prior to awarding any rapid response additional assistance funds to a WDC, ESD will take into consideration the amount of funds transferred out of the WIA dislocated worker grants during that program year. Transferring any portion of the dislocated worker base allocation may affect a WDA's

access to rapid response additional assistance funds. If funds are transferred from the dislocated worker grant, ESD will limit access to rapid response additional assistance funds for six months following the transfer of these funds. ESD may waive this policy for extreme or unforeseen circumstances.

Transfer Request Procedure:

WDCs must forward a letter of request to ESD for approval prior to any transfer of adult or dislocated worker employment and training funds. The letter must include the following criteria for review and approval:

- 1. The reason(s) for the request to transfer funds, the amount of the transfer request and the percentage this request represents of the base allocation;
- 2. The fund source of the transfer (to adult from dislocated worker funds, or to dislocated worker funds from adult):
- 3. Signed approval from the advisory board requesting this transfer; and
- 4. A revised "Participant Planning Form" for both the adult and dislocated worker programs which accompanies the program analysis. The analysis must include:
 - a. Proposed services and number of participants originally planned to be served by the base allocation compared to the services and number of participants planned to be served once the funds have been transferred;
 - b. Justification that the transfer of funds will not have an adverse impact in providing services to participants and that necessary services and client-planned activities will be maintained in the program from which the funds are transferred;
 - c. A discussion of the Workforce Development Area's past history of transfer requests, including how previous transfers impacted participants and funds; and
 - d. An assessment of any potential layoffs or closures of which the WDC is aware and how these events will be addressed using existing funds if funds are transferred from the dislocated worker program.

WDCs may request a transfer of funds anytime during the program year. As such, the WDC must confirm that this transfer will not reduce the required rate of expenditure of the fund source to which the funds are transferred by the end of the program year. The Department of Labor (DOL) requires that 70% of the WIA Title 1-B adults and dislocated workers resources be expended by the end of each program year.

ESD's approval of the request for transfer of funds will be determined based on:

- 1. A review of the local analysis;
- 2. The reason(s) for the transfer;
- 3. The effects on the fund sources; and
- 4. The impact on participants.

Prior to approval, ESD may request additional information from the WDC or from the ESD's Labor Market and Economic (LMEA) division. ESD may deny the request or authorize a partial or full transfer of funds. Subsequent to approval of the transfer, ESD will e-mail the appropriate

modifications to the requesting WDC for completion and signature.

NOTE: The following note is for information only and is not to be state policy, but provided for local consideration when determining the level of funds to be transferred out of the dislocated worker formula funds.

There are currently no new National Emergency Grant (NEG) Regulations for use under WIA as of September 4, 2003 and may be subject to change in the future. Other than the regulations that are published at Part 671 (NEGs for Dislocated Workers) in the current WIA Regulations, the previous National Reserve Grant Regulations published July 9, 1992 in the Federal Register Vol. 57, No.132 are still in effect until such new regulations and guidelines are published according to the Department of Labor.

The guidelines that accompany the current national Reserve Grant Regulations indicate that, should a WDC be interested in applying for NEG funds, a consideration at the time of review may be the amount of funds transferred out of the Dislocated Worker formula funds during that program year. The general rule is that organizations who transfer up to 10% of their Dislocated Worker formula funds during any one program could still be considered for the NEG funds, but organizations that transfer between 10%-30% may have difficulty receiving these funds. This same guidance should be taken into consideration if a WDC has in mind now or at some point in the future to apply for State Rapid Response Assistance.

4. Definitions:

Base Allocation - Prior to the beginning of each program year, DOL announces state allotments based on adult and dislocated worker program formulas defined in law. In turn, the Employment Security Department allocates adult and dislocated worker program funds to each WDA based on formula. For purposes of this transfer policy, the original allotment from DOL to the state and WDAs will be considered the "base allocation."

5. References:

- WIA Section 133(b)(4)
- 20 CFR Part 667.140
- 20 CFR Part 671.100-170
- TEGL 23-02
- OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2009, Division F, Title I.

6. <u>Supersedes</u>:

Policy 3451, Revision 2, Funds Transfer Between Adult and Dislocated Worker Grants Under WIA and ARRA.

7. Website:

http://www.wa.gov/esd/policies/title1b.htm

8. Action:

WDCs and their contractors, as well as Employment Security Area Directors, should distribute this policy broadly throughout the system to ensure that WorkSource System staff are familiar with its content and requirements.

Direct Inquiries To:

WorkSource Standards & Integration Division Employment Security Department PO Box 9046 Olympia, WA 98507 (360) 725-9500

Direct Grant Modification Questions To:

Donna Fussell WorkSource Standards & Integration Division Employment Security Department (360) 725-9502 dfussell@esd.wa.gov

Approved:

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