

Subpart E—Eligible Training Providers

§ 663.500 What is the purpose of this subpart?

The workforce investment system established under WIA emphasizes informed customer choice, system performance, and continuous improvement. The eligible provider process is part of the strategy for achieving these goals. Local Boards, in partnership with the State, identify training providers and programs whose performance qualifies them to receive WIA funds to train adults and dislocated workers. In order to maximize customer choice and assure that all significant population groups are served, States and local areas should administer the eligible provider process in a manner to assure that significant numbers of competent providers, offering a wide variety of training programs and occupational choices, are available to customers. After receiving core and intensive services and in consultation with case managers, eligible participants who need training use the list of these eligible providers to make an informed choice. The ability of providers to successfully perform, the procedures State and Local Boards use to establish eligibility, and the degree to which information, including performance information, on those providers is made available to customers eligible for training services, are key factors affecting the successful implementation of the Statewide workforce investment system. This subpart describes the process for determining eligible training providers.

§ 663.505 What are eligible providers of training services?

(a) Eligible providers of training services are described in WIA section 122. They are those entities eligible to receive WIA title I-B funds to provide training services to eligible adult and dislocated worker customers.

(b) In order to provide training services under WIA title I-B, a provider must meet the requirements of this subpart and WIA section 122.

(1) These requirements apply to the use of WIA title I adult and dislocated worker funds to provide training:

(i) To individuals using ITA's to access training through the eligible provider list; and

(ii) To individuals for training provided through the exceptions to ITA's described at § 663.430 (a)(2) and (a)(3).

(2) These requirements apply to all organizations providing training to adult and dislocated workers, including:

(i) Postsecondary educational institutions providing a program described in WIA section 122(a)(2)(A)(ii);

(ii) Entities that carry out programs under the National Apprenticeship Act (29 U.S.C. 50 *et seq.*);

(iii) Other public or private providers of a program of training services described in WIA section 122(a)(2)(C);

(iv) Local Boards, if they meet the conditions of WIA section 117(f)(1); and

(v) Community-based organizations and other private organizations providing training under § 663.430.

(c) Provider eligibility procedures must be established by the Governor, as required by this subpart. Different procedures are described in WIA for determinations of "initial" and "subsequent" eligibility. Because the processes are different, they are discussed separately.

§ 663.508 What is a "program of training services"?

A program of training services is one or more courses or classes, or a structured regimen, that upon successful completion, leads to:

(a) A certificate, an associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or

(b) The skills or competencies needed for a specific job or jobs, an occupation, occupational group, or generally, for many types of jobs or occupations, as recognized by employers and determined prior to training.

§ 663.510 Who is responsible for managing the eligible provider process?

(a) The State and the Local Boards each have responsibilities for managing the eligible provider process.

(b) The Governor must establish eligibility criteria for certain providers to become initially eligible and must set minimum levels of performance for all providers to remain subsequently eligible.

(c) The Governor must designate a State agency (called the “designated State agency”) to assist in carrying out WIA section 122. The designated State agency is responsible for:

(1) Developing and maintaining the State list of eligible providers and programs, which is comprised of lists submitted by Local Boards;

(2) Determining if programs meet performance levels, including verifying the accuracy of the information on the State list in consultation with the Local Boards, removing programs that do not meet program performance levels, and taking appropriate enforcement actions, against providers in the case of the intentional provision of inaccurate information, as described in WIA section 122(f)(1), and in the case of a substantial violation of the requirements of WIA, as described in WIA section 122(f)(2);

(3) Disseminating the State list, accompanied by performance and cost information relating to each provider, to One-Stop operators throughout the State.

(d) The Local Board must:

(1) Accept applications for initial eligibility from certain postsecondary institutions and entities providing apprenticeship training;

(2) Carry out procedures prescribed by the Governor to assist in determining the initial eligibility of other providers;

(3) Carry out procedures prescribed by the Governor to assist in determining the subsequent eligibility of all providers;

(4) Compile a local list of eligible providers, collect the performance and cost information and any other required information relating to providers;

(5) Submit the local list and information to the designated State agency;

(6) Ensure the dissemination and appropriate use of the State list through the local One-Stop system;

(7) Consult with the designated State agency in cases where termination of an eligible provider is contemplated because inaccurate information has been provided; and

(8) Work with the designated State agency in cases where the termination

of an eligible provider is contemplated because of violations of the Act.

(e) The Local Board may:

(1) Make recommendations to the Governor on the procedures to be used in determining initial eligibility of certain providers;

(2) Increase the levels of performance required by the State for local providers to maintain subsequent eligibility;

(3) Require additional verifiable program-specific information from local providers to maintain subsequent eligibility.

§ 663.515 What is the process for initial determination of provider eligibility?

(a) To be eligible to receive adult or dislocated worker training funds under title I of WIA, all providers must submit applications to the Local Boards in the areas in which they wish to provide services. The application must describe each program of training services to be offered.

(b) For programs eligible under title IV of the Higher Education Act and apprenticeship programs registered under the National Apprenticeship Act (NAA), and the providers or such programs, Local Boards determine the procedures to use in making an application. The procedures established by the Local Board must specify the timing, manner, and contents of the required application.

(c) For programs not eligible under title IV of the HEA or registered under the NAA, and for providers not eligible under title IV of the HEA or carrying out apprenticeship programs under NAA:

(1) The Governor must develop a procedure for use by Local Boards for determining the eligibility of other providers, after

(i) Soliciting and taking into consideration recommendations from Local Boards and providers of training services within the State;

(ii) Providing an opportunity for interested members of the public, including representatives of business and labor organizations, to submit comments on the procedure; and

(iii) Designating a specific time period for soliciting and considering the