
GST MICHIGAN WORKS! POLICY 17-02 Change 4
(Board Approved March 11, 2022)

TO: Chief Executive of Subrecipients and Agency Staff

FROM: Jody Kerbyson, CEO

SUBJECT: In & Out of School Youth Incentive Payments

EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2022

PROGRAM AFFECTED: WIOA Youth Programs

RESCISSIONS: PI 17-02 change 3

REFERENCES: WIOA Manual

BACKGROUND: This policy is applicable to youth enrolled in WIOA activities. Because of the barriers the average youth faces, to help motivate, encourage, and support them, this policy is allowing the use of Incentive Payments for recognition and achievement directly tied to training activities and employment. A performance incentive is not an entitlement, but rather, is designed to encourage participation in activities. All incentive awards will be subject to the availability of youth funds for the current program year.

POLICY: This policy issuance allows incentive payments to both In School & Out of School Youth. The attached chart gives allowable options for incentive payments based on WIOA regulations under 20 CFR 681.640. Incentive payments to youth are permitted only in recognition and achievement directly tied to training activities and work experience.

Incentive Payments will be based on the following criteria:

Incentives may be awarded to enrolled Youth upon completion of specific Performance-related outcomes, activity completion and /or goal attainment. In addition, Youth must be in compliance, with all program requirements, including but not limited to activity logs, reporting in a timely fashion, and providing employment verification and check stubs.

- Incentives may be presented in the form of gift cards or a check.
(When using a gift card, a signed receipt is required as proof of the award and verification that they received the gift card.)

- Incentives may be awarded at any time during the program from the date of Enrollment through termination.
- Only one incentive payment can be made per activity, participants cannot receive an incentive for a duplicate activity.
- Youth Incentive Requests will be submitted along with required documentation of the achievement to receive the incentive payment.

Service Providers will keep records of incentive payments for each participant. All incentive payments will be recorded as a case note in OSMIS verifying the participant met the requirement to receive the award.

WIOA federal funds must not be spent on entertainment costs. Therefore, incentives must not be used for entertainment, such as movie or sporting event tickets or gift cards to movie theaters or other venues whose sole purpose is entertainment.

Incentive payments will be available to participants who meet the criteria for achievements according to the attached chart below. This chart outlines the milestones that can be achieved.

ACTION:

GST Michigan Works! Service Providers shall take the appropriate actions Necessary to ensure all participants and their files meet all the directives of this policy issuance. Service Provider officials shall ensure the information contained in this policy is disseminated to all appropriate staff.

INQUIRES:

Questions regarding this policy issuance should be directed to Angela Libkie 810-233-5974 Ext 102 or JulAnn Kuenzli 989-635-3561 Ext 230.

SIGNED:



Jody Kerbyson, CEO

1-1-2022

Date

IN & OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH INCENTIVES

PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES	SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTATION	INCENTIVE AMOUNT
Attainment of Degree or Certificate		
Obtained High School Diploma	Copy of Diploma or Official Transcript	N/A
Passed series of High School Equivalency Tests	High School Equivalency Test Results Incentive payments can be paid for each test taken successfully	Each test = Final test = N/A
Complete a Recognized Credential Training Program	Complete a Training - Certificate of Completion/Certification	Complete= N/A
Work Experience Completion		
Successfully Complete a Work Experience Program	An evaluation from the employer giving the youth a good recommendation on work habits and attendance.	N/A
Placement in Employment		N/A
Obtained Unsubsidized Employment 32+ Hours/Week	Pay Stub or Verification of Employment Hours	N/A
Skill Gain		
Increase TABE/CASAS Score by One (1) Grade Level. Basic Skills Deficient: 8.9 & Under. (<i>Must be basic skills deficient to start</i>).	Pre and Post test scores for total Math and/or Reading. Increases of one or more grade levels per test to receive the incentive. Customers are encouraged to re-take tests as their skill levels increase. Must be enrolled in one of the following activities on OSMIS: Alternative Secondary School Services or Tutoring, Study Skills Training, Dropout Prevention.	Reading= Math= Both= N/A