

Rockland BOCES Youth Connections Program

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Individual Training Award Policy

Individual Training Awards (ITAs) are established under the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act [WIOA; Section 134 (c)(3)] to address the needs of in-demand sectors and develop a skills-ready workforce for employers by providing training and employability skills to youth entering the workforce.

ITAs are available to all active Out-of-School youth participants between 16-24 years old who meet the criteria for enrollment into a training course. All training providers are eligible to receive ITA training monies if they are approved on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) for Rockland County, New York; stating that the course prepares youth for an occupation within an in-demand sector and produces a certification/credential that is recognized for obtaining employment, retaining employment, or moving up an employment skill level (i.e. promotion).

Youth Participant Eligibility: Must be an active participant in the Youth Connections program, have not received WIOA funding within the last 3 years (except for under extenuating circumstances), and have completed CareerZone.

Youth participant must meet with a Youth Connections Case Manager to evaluate readiness and suitability for a training course. In this meeting, the youth participant and Case Manager will review the following:

- CareerZone results, including youth's career interests, skills, and abilities
- New York State ETPL
- What courses they are interested in and the reasoning for that course
- Other career pathways that might be of interest to the youth
- Any obstacles that may present themselves during the course of study
- Goals as outlined in the comprehensive assessment and individualized service strategy

Determination of eligibility is made by the Youth Connections staff based on multiple factors:

- Youth's interests.
 - Do they come with a plan/do they have a class in mind that they want to take?
 - Have they done research on the course/future job potential?
- Youth's barriers.
 - Are there barriers that might get in the way of course completion?
 - Can our services help to alleviate some of these barriers?
- Qualifications for the course.
 - Is the youth eligible for the course based on admissions criteria?

Final determination is based on the above mentioned factors, as well as the availability of funding, availability of support services to help alleviate any barriers to success, course inclusion on NYS ETPL, and the potential for employment post-enrollment.