


MARICOPA COUNTY  HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT Workforce Development Division	SECTION/REFERENCE Federal Register/Vol.65, No.156, Part 664 PL 129 (c)(1)(2)	PAGE 1 OF 2
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SUBJECT: Introduction to WIA Maricopa Workforce Connection Youth Programs	ADDENDA:	

Background:

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 was signed by President Bill Clinton on August 7, 1998. The act reforms federal job training programs and creates a new, comprehensive workforce investment system that is customer-focused and helps people access the tools they need to manage their careers through information and high quality services.

Purpose:

The purpose of WIA is to improve the quality of the workforce by providing workforce investment activities through statewide and local workforce investment systems and increasing the employment opportunities, employee retention, and earnings of participants.

The WIA Youth Program Design and Program Elements (P.L. Section 129 (c) (1), (2)), defines the ten program elements that a local program must make available to youth participants. The ten service elements mandated in WIA are:

- 1) Tutoring, study skills training and instruction leading to secondary school completion, including dropout prevention strategies
- 2) Alternative secondary school
- 3) Summer Employment
- 4) Paid and unpaid work experience
- 5) Occupational skill training
- 6) Leadership development
- 7) Supportive services
- 8) Adult mentoring
- 9) Follow-up Services
- 10) Comprehensive guidance and counseling, as well as referrals to counseling, as appropriate to the needs of the individual youth

Maricopa Workforce Connection

There are fifteen local workforce areas within the State of Arizona. The statewide system, known as Arizona Workforce Connections (AWC) is overseen by the Governor's Council on Workforce Policy (GCWP). AWC is the "brand" adopted by the GCWP for the statewide system. The Maricopa Workforce Connection (MWC) is through the Maricopa County Human Services Department Workforce Development Division and is the local workforce area for Maricopa County, which is an affiliate of AWC.

The MWC Youth Programs Philosophy, Mission, and Vision Statements are as follows:

Our Philosophy is the belief that:

- All youth can learn and achieve;
- All youth can increase awareness and share ideas;
- All youth deserve to experience meaningful participation;
- We must encourage and empower youth to their fullest potential; and
- We must recognize our interaction with youth as a united and equal opportunity partnership.

Our **Mission** is to create and improve academic, occupational, and civic opportunities for youth to succeed by providing comprehensive, quality support for their transition from experiential adolescence to competent adulthood.

Our **Vision** is to empower the emerging and growing generation to achieve life-long success, contributing to the overall well-being of their community.