

## Central/Western Maine Workforce Investment Board

### WIA Youth Sixth Barrier Definition\*

**Background:**

Section 29 CFR 664.20 of the WIA provides local workforce investment board areas with the authority to determine criteria and eligibility documentation requirements in the sixth barrier for WIA youth eligibility which reads:

- *“An individual (including youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment.”*

In order to be eligible for the WIA Youth program (§ 664.200) a youth must be:

- A. not less than age 14 and not more than age 21;
- B. is a low-income individual; and,
- C. an individual who is one or more of the following:
  1. deficient in basic literacy skills
  2. a school dropout
  3. homeless, a runaway or a foster child
  4. pregnant or parenting
  5. an offender
  6. an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment.

**Sixth Barrier Criterion:**

Central/Western Maine Workforce Investment Board (CWMWIB) has identifies the criterion as follows: (additional barriers must be sent to the CWMWIB Executive Director who is authorized to approve)

Sixth Barrier <small>(must meet one of the barriers listed in this column)</small>	Definition	Acceptable Documentation
Disabled youth requiring additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.	Serving disabled youth that are most in need of completing an educational program in order to obtain or maintain employment in order to become self-sufficient members of the community.	Vocational Rehabilitation letter, medical records, school records, physician’s statement, psychological evaluation, Social Security disability records/letter, Worker’s Compensation letter, an official document from a verifying source, or an observable condition which will require a signed applicant statement.
Immigrant/refugee youth with substantial cultural barriers.	Youth in need of introduction to culturally relevant workplace conduct/expectations.	Letter or other documentation from: school, records, other agencies that work with immigrant/refugee populations, or an employer.
Incarcerated parent/legal guardian.	Youth with a parent or legal guardian who is currently or has been incarcerated within	Letter or other documentation from a corrections facility, corrections/parole/police officer, or the court system; criminal

	the past 5 years.	background check; or signed applicant statement.
Member of a migrant family.	Youth whose family are migrant workers.	Letter or other form of documentation from: a state agency verifying migrant status, an employer, a parent, or a local migrant worker community service provider.
Youth exposed to domestic abuse.	Youth who is a member of a family that has experienced domestic abuse within the past 5 years.	Letter or other form of documentation from: a social service agency, the legal system, a school official. Written/signed statement from a parent, or signed applicant statement.
Substance abuse.	Youth with a substance abuse problem or has been treated for such a problem within the past 5 years. Youth residing with a parent/guardian with a substance abuse problem or who has been treated for such a problem within the past 5 years.	Letter or other form of documentation from: a treatment facility, a school official, a court official, medical doctor, or social service agency. Signed statement from a parent or guardian. Medical records.
Behavioral challenges linked to home environment.	Youth who exhibit one or more of the following: violent behavior, excessive absenteeism, record of school suspension, expulsion, or school probation. Youth with family environment not conducive to education or employment. Youth lacking motivation or maturity to pursue education or employment. Youth with health issues that impair education or employment.	Letter or other form of documentation from: a school official, social service agency, the legal system or health professional. Written/signed statement from a parent.
Restrictions in obtaining employment and education due to one or more of the following: geographic location, restrictive public transportation, lack of job openings for youth and competition with adults for existing jobs, and limited number of training facilities.	Limited opportunities due to residing in a non-urban location. Public transportation that operates on restricted schedules, is cost prohibitive on a daily basis, or nonexistent. Lack of employment openings within a 20 mile radius that match youth's experience. A UI rate above that of adults. Lack of post-secondary training facilities within a 20 mile radius that offer training matching youth preference.	Proof of residence showing youth lives outside an urban area. Documentation of availability of public transportation and hours of operation i.e. bus schedule. Documentation of taxi service rates. Verification from town that no taxi or bus service exists. Unemployment rate for youth in Maine. Number of available job postings on MJB within a 20 mile radius of youth's residence that match youth's experience. List of training facilities offering training matching youth's preference and distance from youth's residence.

**Effective Dates:**

This policy shall remain in effect from July 1, 2014 unless otherwise modified by the Central/Western Maine Local Workforce Investment Board. A copy of the policy and all future modifications must be sent to [Virginia.A.carroll@maine.gov](mailto:Virginia.A.carroll@maine.gov)

This policy will be reviewed every two years from effective date.

**Authorizing Official:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
June 20, 2014

\_\_\_\_\_  
CWMWIB Executive Director      Date

**Reference:**

\*Policy & Procedure Governing Youth Enrollment

Policy approved at CWMWIB Board meeting on June 20, 2014

June 11, 2014 Date of Document Origination