

POLICIES FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW & APPROVAL

ACTION REQUESTED

The WDC staff has reviewed and recommends the following policies to Finance and Administration Committee for approval on November 5, 2021.

1. Accommodations Policy
2. On the Job Training for WIOA Title I Programs
3. TAA and WIOA Worker Co-Enrollment
4. Adult and Dislocated Worker Incentive Payments Policy
5. Procurement Policy

Recommendation: WDC staff recommends the updated policies be accepted for final approval and immediate release and effective date of November 5, 2021.

SYNOPSIS

Policy summary and modifications are as follows:

1. **Accommodations Policy** - provides operational guidance on reasonable accommodations and procedures.
2. **On the Job Training for WIOA Title I Programs – guidance and procedures in use of OJTs and** increasing the maximum funding limits from \$7,000 to \$14,000 and increasing the employer reimbursements from 50% to 75%.
3. **TAA and WIOA Worker Co-Enrollment** - Establish process for DW programs to accept referrals of TAA participants from TAA program.
4. **Adult and Dislocated Worker Incentive Payments Policy** - Allowance of cash assistance in Adult and Dislocated Worker programs to address persistence and retention in training and employment.
5. **Procurement Policy** – communicates procedures for the procurement process and establishes guidance on purchasing limits. Also, allows flexibility in procurement of private and philanthropic fund sources.

BACKGROUND

The Workforce Development Council (WDC) of Seattle-King County proposed five (5) updated policies to address programmatic and administrative components of programming funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). These policies align with WIOA Final Rules, as well as the Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD) WIOA Title I and WorkSource System policies. The revised

policies are in “final draft” format and included in Finance and Administration Committee package for November 5, 2021.

APPROACH AND PROCESS

The following policies (Accommodations Policy, On the Job Training for WIOA Title I Programs, TAA and WIOA Worker Co-Enrollment, Adult and Dislocated Worker Incentive Payments Policy, Procurement Policy) were released for public comment and staff incorporated feedback into final policy for Finance and Administration Committee approval.

EQUITY IMPLICATIONS

The WDC launched the review of local policies in alignment with the Regional Strategic Plan strategies for an equitable economic recovery. In order to mitigate disparities in underserved populations and communities of color, the updated policies emphasize a pro-eligibility approach, removes overly restrictive documentation and terms, and embraces the widest definitions possible to benefit the maximum number of individuals.