



## **PUBLIC POLICY SELECTION OF YOUTH PROGRAM SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Workforce Development Area (Local Area) was designated by the Governor of Puerto Rico to serve as the jurisdiction for the administration of activities aimed at workforce development and the execution of the funds of the Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs, delegated by the State, as established in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), approved by the United States Congress on July 22, 2014.

The WIOA Youth Program is administered by the Mayagüez-Las Marías Consortium, which administers WIOA Title I-B funds in the Local Area. For young people (14 to 24 years old), a sequence of services is established, beginning with career exploration and orientation, support to improve the level of education, and the development of skills in industries and/or occupations in demand. The program culminates with obtaining a job or enrolling in a post-secondary education institution.

### **II. LEGAL BASIS**

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Sections 3(44) and 134(c)(3)(H).
- "Federal Register, Vol. 81 No. 161, Sections 679.220; 681.400.
- "Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No 21-16 "Third WIOA, Title I Youth Formula Program Guidance," issued by the Training and Employment Administration of the United States Department of Labor.

### **III. PUBLIC POLICY**

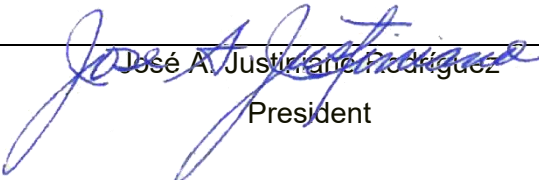
Section 123 (a) of the WIOA Act and Section 681.400 of its Interpretative Regulations establish that the Local Board may award grants or contracts to develop the activities (elements) of the Youth Program, or the Fiscal Agent has the option to provide some or all of the elements directly. Given this, the Mayagüez-Las Marías Local Workforce Development Board (Local Board) has determined the following:

1. Of the fourteen (14) elements of the Youth Program, the following will be provided by the administering agency:
  - a. Support Services;
  - b. Coordination of paid and unpaid Work Experience activities, including Internships and Work Exposure, Pre-Apprenticeship Programs, Summer Jobs, and On-the-Job Training under Section 129(c)(2)(c), WIOA, except for the occupational education component, for out-of-school youth, which will be contracted. The State Youth Provider Registry will be used for the latter;
  - c. Follow-up Services
2. The State Training Provider Registry will be used with the Occupational Skills Development activity for out-of-school youth (16 to 24). The Individual Training Accounts modality will offer it, as established in Section 681.550 of the Interpretive Regulations.
3. The remaining activities (elements), described in Section 129(c)(2) of WIOA and Section 681.460 of its Interpretative Regulations, shall be selected through competition. The Local Board shall invite prospective activity providers to submit requests for services (proposals) by advertisement published in a newspaper of general circulation. The activities to be contracted shall be directed to in-school and out-of-school youth, ages 14 to 24, residing in the municipalities comprising the Local Area.
4. After the proposals are recommended by the Youth Committee and approved by the Local Board, the Statewide List of Providers for the Youth Program will be prepared.
5. It will be submitted to the Workforce Development Program (PDL in Spanish), attached to the Department of Economic Development and Commerce, for evaluation.
6. The Provider(s) offering the activities will be selected from the Statewide List of Providers for the Youth Program.
7. When there is more than one Provider for the same service, the entity's Executive Director administering the funds will select the Provider offering the activity based on the needs of the participants who will receive the service and the available funds.

8. Should the need arise to provide a service or activity not included or available on the Statewide Provider List for the applicable Program Year Youth Program, the Local Board may issue a Request for Proposal under applicable rules.
9. All employees of the Local Area involved in the selection process of the Service Providers shall comply with the provisions of the Puerto Rico Governmental Ethics Act of 2011: Act No. 1 of 2012. Failing this, the members of the Local Board and the Youth Committee, who are not government employees, shall comply with the provisions of the Local Board Regulations, as amended.

#### IV. APPROVAL AND EFFECTIVENESS

This public policy shall become effective immediately upon approval. The Local Board Director shall inform and train staff within five (5) days of its approval.

  
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José A. Justina Rodríguez  
President

*23/abril/2019*  
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April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019  
Date

#### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

*Smile Again Learning Center, Corp., certifies that a fluent translator in English and Spanish translated this document, that the above is a true and correct translation of the original document provided, in our best judgment, the translated text truly reflects the content, meaning, and style of the original text and constitutes in every aspect a complete and accurate translation of the original document. This is to certify the correctness of the translation only. We do not make any claims or guarantees about the authenticity or content of the original document. Further, Smile Again Learning Center assumes no liability for the way in which the translation is used by the customer or any third party, including end-users of the translation. Any translation into another language shall be deemed as reference and the original version shall prevail in any case. A copy of the translation is attached to this certification.*

*In Isabela, Puerto Rico, June 30, 2024*

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