

American Job Center

MAYAGUEZ-LAS MARIAS LOCAL LABOR DEVELOPMENT BOARD PUBLIC POLICY ON THE SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAM

Policy Number:

WIOA-2021-002

Date of Approval: Effective Date:

April 22, 2021

April 22, 2021

Addressed to:

I. PURPOSE

Local Labor Development System -Local Area of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías

JA JA JAX The Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías issues this public policy in order to establish the guidelines and parameters through which the process of selecting service providers of the Youth Program will be carried out, under the auspices of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, WIOA for its acronym in English.

The Youth Program assists eligible youth in and out of school, with one or more barriers, to achieving academic and employment success, by providing services that allow them to access educational opportunities in which they can gain new skills, as a tool, to enter the labor market.

This Local Board has the obligation to make available the fourteen (14) elements of the Youth Program, so that the youth can access multiple elements during their participation in the program, especially those mandatory, through the POLICY WIOA-03-20 and the guide DDEC-WIOA-02-20, issued by the State Board of Labor Development, in collaboration with the Labor Development Program, and those that the Local Board will decide later. It is important to note that the career planners(1) of the Youth Program will decide what other programmatic elements to provide to them, based on their objective evaluation, and will design a plan to provide these services in the Individual Strategy.

¹Also known as Case Handlers

Services (ISS) which reflects the career pathway of each young person.

That is why the Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Board will ensure that each element is closely connected and coordinated, with a special focus on supporting education and achieving professional certification, which allows young people to succeed within the labor market. Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Pages **3** of **16**

The Local Board Mayagüez - Las Marías will make the corresponding investments, to offer the elements of the Youth Program, based on the distribution of funds for it, in accordance with WIOA:

75%	Youth Out of School
25%	Youth In School
20% of total Youth Program funds2	
	Work Experience

II. LEGAL BASIS



- WIOA-03-20, Policy for the Selection of Eligible Youth Service Providers, State Board of Workforce Development, July 7, 2020
- DDEC-02-20, Technical Assistance Guide for Youth Program Elements, State Board of Workforce Development, July 7, 2020
- Public Law 113-128, WIOA, Secs. 126-129, Youth labor investment activities.
- WIOA, Sec. 123 Eligible Youth Activity Providers
- WIOA, Sec. 116 Performance Accountability System
- 20 CFR Par 681 Youth Activities Under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- 20 CFR Par 682 State Activities Under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- 2 CFR Pars 200 and 2900, Uniform Guide
- TEGL 21-16 Third Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Youth Formula Program Guidance
- TEN 22-19 Technical Assistance Resources for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Pages **4** of **16**

- TEGL 08-15: Second Title I WIOA Youth Program Transition Guidance
- TEGL 23-14: Transition of the WIOA Youth Program
- TEGL 21-16: Third Guide to the WIOA Title I Youth Program Formula
- TEGL 10-16, Change 1: Performance Accountability Guide for Major WIOA Programs Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV
- TEGL 03-18: Eligible Training Provider (ETP) Reporting Guide under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

²For this calculation, the administration funds are not considered

III. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

- a. Youth Program A program that serves, under WIOA Title 1-B, youth ages 14 to 24 who are in or out of school, who are low-income (3), and who have multiple barriers to employment.
- b. Youth in School (ISY) (20 CFR 681.220) A youth who:
 - 1. Attends school (as defined by state law).
 - 2. Not younger than 14 or older than 21 (unless you are a functionally diverse individual who is in school under state law), and a
 - 3. low-income individual, who is also:
 - i. Deficient in basic skills; or
 - ii. An English student.
 - iii. An offender
 - iv. A homeless person (as defined in section 41403 {6} of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 USC 14043e 2 (6))), a homeless child or youth (as defined in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11434a (2))), a fugitive, in foster care, or has left the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under section 477 of the Social

Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677), or in an out-of-home placement;

- v. A young woman who is pregnant or raising.
- vi. A young person who is an individual with functional diversity; or

3. Low-income exception: In WIOA, Section 129(a)(3)(A)(ii), no more than 5 percent (5%) of youth who will normally be required to meet the low-income criteria may be determined eligible under this characteristic within the same program. See Youth Program Eligibility Determination Policy promulgated on October 26, 2017.

- vii. A low-income person who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or maintain employment.
- c. Youth Out of School (OSY) (20 CFR 681.210) A youth who:
 - 1. Does not attend any school (as defined by state law).
 - 2. Is not under the age of 16 or over the age of 24; and
 - 3. Have one or more of the following:
 - 4. A school dropout.
 - 5. A young person who is within the mandatory school age but has not attended school for at least the most recent calendar quarter of the full school year and is not enrolled with plans to return or remain in school.
 - 6. A recipient of a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and:
 - i. Is deficient in basic skills; or
 - ii. Is an English student .

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Pages **6** of **16**

- 7. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system.
- 8. A homeless person (as defined in section 41403 (6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 USC 14043e - 2 (6))), a homeless child or youth (as defined in section 725 (2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11434a (2))), a fugitive, in foster care or has left the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677), or in an out-of-home placement;
- 9. A young woman who is pregnant or raising.
- 10. A young person who is an individual with functional diversity; or
- 11. A low-income person who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program, or to secure or maintain employment.
- d. WIOA Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- e. Eligible Provider An entity that has been contracted under a contract or grant by the Local Labor Development Board, as described in section 123 of WIOA (20 CFR 681,400), including its exceptions, and following the criteria of the State Plan.

⁴ WIOA, Section 129(a)(3)(B), states that no more than 5 percent (5%) of youth within the school may be determined eligible under this characteristic within the same program year. See Youth Program Eligibility Determination Policy promulgated on October 26, 2017.

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page 6 of 16

- f. Sole-Source Exception to the competitive process for awarding a contract or subsidy of services, as described in section 123(b) of WIOA, when it is understood that there is an insufficient number of eligible providers of youth services, within the Local Area, so it is not possible to award the contract or grant by means of a competition.
- g. **Insufficient number of eligible suppliers** Insufficient suppliers will be considered when only 1 eligible supplier is presented, for a program element.
- h. Career Pathway Career path is an integrated collection of programs and services aimed at developing a young person's basic academic, technical, and employability skills, providing them with continuing education and training to place them in high-demand jobs. The career pathway is designed to move young women from education to the workforce.
- i. **PRIS** *Participant Record Information System*. State database that is used to maintain the tract of services provided to participants and that has the functionality of reporting the execution of Puerto Rico to the Federal Department of Labor, through the WIPS or Workforce Integrated Performance System.

IV. <u>RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL BOARD</u>

The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Board will design a service delivery system that meets the needs of youth within the local area by:

- a. Selecting youth service providers that are aligned with each local strategy and that support the development of youth's career paths as described in their individual service plan.
- b. Coordination of activities for young people; and
- Monitoring and evaluating the activities of youth service providers , funded by Title 1-B funds.

In the same way, this Local Board will collaborate with the Fiscal Agent in the supervision of the use of the funds and will serve as administrator of the contracts. The Mayaguez Local Board - Las Marias will:

- a. Execute contracts with youth service providers and monitor compliance with program regulations.
- b. Authorize payments to contractors in accordance with their contracts.
- c. Issue incentives and payments for support services to eligible youth in accordance with our Local Board policies.
- d. Supervise and evaluate the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative performance of all Title 1-B funded youth service providers.

V. <u>PROGRAM ELEMENTS</u>

In accordance with the obligation of this Board, we will make available the fourteen (14) elements of the Youth Program, these being:

- 1. Tutoring, training in study skills, instruction, and implementation of strategies for the prevention of school dropout (20 CFR 681,400, (681,460(a)(l))
- Alternate High School Services and Recovery of Dropouts (20 CFR 681,400, 681,460(a)(2))
- 3. Paid or unpaid work experience (20 CFR 681,600)
- 4. Occupational Skills Training (20 CFR 681,540)
- Education offered concurrently with workforce preparation activities (20 CFR 681,630)
- 6. Leadership Development Opportunities (20 CFR 681.520, §681.530)
- 7. Support Services⁵ (20 CFR 681.570)

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page $\bf 6$ of $\bf 16$

- 8. Adult Mentoring (20 CFR 681.490)
- 9. Tracking (Follow up) Services (20 CFR 681.580)
- 10. Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance (20 CFR 681.510)
- 11. Financial Literacy Education (20 CFR 681,500)
- 12. Business Skills Training (20 CFR 681.560)
- 13. Services that provide information on the labor market
- 14. Preparation and transition activities to postsecondary education (20 CFR 681.460(a)(14))

⁵ Support services have usually been identified as support services. However, the appropriate term is *support services* since it better reflects the concept of what this element intends. See document DDEC-WIOA-02-20: *Technical Assistance Gluttony of the Elements of the Youth Program.*

In the same way, the public policy of the state is adopted, and strict observance will be given to the offer of the mandatory elements for young people inside and outside the school, *as* follows:

Young people in school
Activities of Preparation and
Transition to
Postsecondary education
Financial Literacy Education
Services that offer information on
the Labor Market
Follow-up Services
Leadership Development
Opportunities



The Local Board, for its part, adopts the element of tutorials as mandatory for young people outside the school, and inside the school who are academically lacking in one or more subjects, so that they receive the necessary tools conducive to completing a high school diploma or recognized equivalent, or a recognized postsecondary credential. In the case of youth with functional diversity, they must lead to the achievement of a recognized certificate of attendance or aptitude, or similar document.

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **8** of **16**

VI. YOUTH SERVICES FRAMEWORK

A. Professional career

Given that our young people can access quality services that allow them to obtain the tools and skills that help them complete or re-enter school, access post-secondary education or obtain sustainable employment in high demand, it is necessary that all determinations related to the Individual Services Strategy (ISS, for its acronym in English) are taken into consideration. The professional career path of the young person, which will be the basis for justifying the services offered to them.

⁶ See DDEC-WIOA-02-20, p. 6 - "... Tutoring should be on the ISS *for out-of-school* (OSY) youth who are young people deficient in basic skills..."

The career path is an integrated collection of programs and services aimed at developing a young person's basic academic, technical, and employability skills, providing them with continuing education, and training to place them in high-demand jobs. The career pathway is designed to move young people from education to the workforce.

The career path must be designed to attain the achievement of recognized credentials in the industry, leading to sustainable careers.

During the professional career:

- a. The skills needed of industries in the economy of the State, or the economy of the region are aligned with the skills of the young person.
- b. An individual is prepared to succeed in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options, including registered apprenticeships pursuant to the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the "National Apprenticeship Act"; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 USC 50 et seq.).
- c. Includes counseling to support an individual in achieving their education and career development goals.
- d. Includes, as appropriate, education offered simultaneously and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational group.
- e. Organizes education, training, and other services to meet an individual's particular needs in a way that accelerates educational and professional advancement as much as possible.
- f. It allows an individual to obtain a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least one (1) recognized postsecondary credential; and
- g. It helps a person enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational group.

B. Case Management

Case management within career planning is necessary to connect the youth to multiple programs and services, as well as to help the youth attain achievable goals in a short time and support them in long-term outcomes.

The case management component is carried out throughout the entirety of the youth's participation. From the moment the young person is registered until the follow-up phase, case management is essential to the success of the services delivered at WIOA.

Case management activities consist of, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Direct Customer Service Guidance, application, eligibility determination , objective evaluation, ISS development, career planning, coordination of support services, referrals, work experience, disseminate and outreach for candidates and follow-up.
- b. Monitoring and documentation of eligibility, services, and results- accurate and opportune data entry, in the database known as PRIS, within the corresponding categories, considering that case management is not a programmatic element of the Youth Program.

All case management, related to the Youth Program, must be offered in accordance with the Public Policy: Career Planning for Participants of the Adult, Displaced Worker and Youth Programs promulgated by the Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías on May 25, 2021. In a similar manner, the Public Policy DDEC-WIOA-08-20, entitled "Case Management and Record Keeping Policy", issued by the Labor Development Program of the Department of Economic Development and Trade, on November 9, 2020, will have to be taken into consideration.

It is necessary to document the elements authorized to the young person to demonstrate that the youth is actively participating in the Youth Program. Career Planners will ensure that the services provided are reported on the Participant Record Information System (PRIS) platform.

C. Common Services Framework

All young people, both inside and outside the school, must receive the services of the Youth Program, within the following structure:

- a. **Initial Interview** Local Board Career Planners will conduct the initial interview process.
- b. Eligibility Determination under the WIOA criteria This determination will have to be made by the Career Planners, once they have all the documents required by the process of requesting services.
- c. **Performing The Comprehensive Assessment** Career Planners and Occupational Counselors are responsible for conducting the comprehensive evaluation. This includes the skills and/or needs of the participant to determine the design of the services they will receive and will be documented in their Individual Service Strategy (ISS).
- d. Collection of evidence and documents Both Career Planners and Career Planners

Youth Program service providers are required to collect data and evidence to help document the selection of items for each young person, considering their professional career, as well as their participation and progress.

e. Written documentation of the process - All determinations in relation to the

Service to the young person must be documented and justified. This is instrumental for the evaluation, execution, and monitoring processes. Both the Career Planner and the Service Provider must document the process of the service provided.

- f. Registration of the participant in the PRIS electronic registration platform -Career Planners will have the responsibility of entering the data of each young person, from the beginning of the service, in the PRIS.
- g. **Follow-up** After completion of participation in the program, follow-up services will be provided to all eligible participants(7) for a minimum of one (1) year.

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **12** of **16**

This service will be provided by the Monitoring Officer.

VII. WAYS TO PROVIDE THE FOURTEEN PROGRAMMATIC ELEMENTS REQUIRED BY WIOA FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAM

The Local Board for Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías will offer the programmatic elements through two (2) of the three (3) modalities available, as described below:

1. Contracting of Suppliers

The Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías will choose to hold a process of public competition for the hiring of eligible suppliers who will have to offer the following twelve (12) elements:

- a. Tutoring, training in study skills, instruction, and implementation of strategies for the prevention of school dropout (20 CFR 681,400, (681,460(a)(1)))
- b. Alternate High School Services and Recovery of Dropouts (20 CFR 681,400, 681,460(a)(2))
- c. Work experience with or without pay (20 CFR 681,600) The Local Board will be requiring proposals for the academic and occupational components of the work experience element only.
- d. Occupational Skills Training (20 CFR 681.540) The Local Board will not seek the services of training providers for the provision of this element through Individual Training Accounts (ITA).

These will be provided using the training providers that are part of the State List of Training Providers (ETPL). However, it will request proposals for alternative activities, which do not constitute Individual Training Accounts. ⁷ Follow-up - Mandatory element for young people in and out of school

- e. Education offered concurrently with workforce preparation activities (20 CFR 681.630)
- f. Leadership Development Opportunities (20 CFR 681.520, §681.530)
- g. Adult Mentoring (20 CFR 681.490)
- h. Business Skills Training (20 CFR 681,560)
- i. Financial Literacy Education (20 CFR 681,460(a)(11))
- j. Services offering information on the labor market (20 CFR 681,460(a)(13))
- k. Preparation and transition activities to postsecondary education (20 CFR 681.460(a)(14))
- I. Tracking Services (20 CFR 681.580)

The competitive process, through which eligible providers will be selected, is the responsibility of the Local Board's Youth Committee. This committee will have the responsibility of receiving, evaluating, approving or denying, as well as awarding the proposals submitted by the proponents, based on the Guide to the Presentation of Proposals. The Local Board, in full, will ratify the determinations of the Board Youth Committee.

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **14** of **16**

This competitive process should identify youth services providers based on the criteria outlined in the WIOA State Plan. In addition, it must take into account the provider's ability to comply with enforcement measures based on primary performance indicators for the WIOA Youth Program.

The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Labor Development Board may exercise the option of hiring an eligible service provider through the single source mechanism, when an insufficient number of eligible service providers are presented. An insufficient number of eligible suppliers will be considered when the Local Board receives proposals from only one (1) supplier for a particular element. If this happens, the Local Board must celebrate the competitive process, for that element in particular, at least one (1) at a time. If after the second competition, inadequacy prevails, the Local Board may select the eligible service provider that meets all the required criteria, in accordance with the Competitive Process Guide.

The Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías will not be issuing a competition for the element of Training in Occupational Skills, as far as the Individual Training Accounts, ITA for its acronym in English, is concerned. This is because the provider has to be listed on the State List of Eligible Providers. This relieves us of the need to hold an additional competition(8). However, the Local Board will request proposals for alternative activities for the offer of this element.

2. Direct Provision of Services

The Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías will be offering, through the staff of Title 1-B, the following elements:

- a. Counseling and Comprehensive Guidance (20 CFR 681.510)
- b. Support Services ⁹ (20 CFR 681.570)
- c. Work Experience

Pursuant to Public Policy WIOA-03-20, if the personnel assigned to provide these services have other functions(10), the Local Board and the Fiscal Agent must establish an agreement that clarifies how the staff will carry out their responsibilities to directly provide the services, together with their other responsibilities, and comply with any conflict-of-interest policies at the state and local level.

In similar manner, the Executive Director of the Local Board is delegated the drafting of a Work Plan that makes the provision of services viable, and the network of alliances with which it counts to make sure that the fourteen (14) items are available. This will be done in compliance with Public Policy WIOA-03-20.

⁸ 20 CFR 681.550, p. 56181, see comments: "... The Department analysed the comments received and expanded the language of the ITA to allow all SOOs, aged 16 to 24, to have access to ITAs. Reflecting previous comments, the Department concluded that the final change in regulation made political and administrative sense by expanding training options, increasing program flexibility, improving client choice, and reducing paperwork for all OSYs. When using youth funds for ITAs, the List of Eligible Training Providers (ETPL) must be used. Access to the ETPL allows the program to avoid further procurement processes."

⁹ Support services have usually been identified as support services. However, the appropriate term is *support services* since it better reflects the concept of what this element intends. See document DDEC-WIOA-02-20: *Technical Assistance Guide of the Elements of Youth Program.*

¹⁰ In the case of the Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Board, none of these officials has additional functions, so it will not be necessary, at this moment, to process this agreement. This agreement shall include the proportion of the expenses incurred against by each program, proportionate to the time invested by the official(s) ("cost allocation").

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **16** of **16**

VIII. <u>COMPETITIVE YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDER SELECTION PROCESS</u>

The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Board will select providers with the capacity to provide services to young people following a systematic approach that offers participants a wide range of coordinated services. For this:

- a. It will publish an announcement requesting proposals, RFP -Request for Proposals
 -, in a newspaper of general circulation and on the website of the Local Board. This announcement will be published in Spanish and English.
- b. It will issue the Guide of instructions for the Presentation of Proposals, which will be made available by electronic means to all interested proponents, on the date of publication of the announcement of the competition. The Guide will be available in printed format for those proponents who request it.

- c. The period for submission of proposals shall be thirty (30) calendar days, counted from the publication of the announcement.
- d. It will hold a pre-competition meeting, mandatory for all interested proponents, with the purpose of clarifying doubts about the scope of the work and the expectations of the Local Board.
- e. It will make available an email address where proponents can submit their questions about the process. The Youth Committee may delegate the answer to these questions to one of the officials of the Local Board. This official will be responsible for circulating all the questions received, as well as their answers, to all possible proponents who have requested the Guide, and who have participated in the precompetition meeting.
- f. Both in the announcement and in the Guide, the period of opening and closing of the competition process will be clearly notified, including specific hours.

- g. Once the proposal period closes, the Youth Committee will make the corresponding evaluation considering the criteria established in the WIOA Policy- 03-20, as well as any other that the Board includes in the Guide of instructions for the Presentation of Proposals.
- h. The Local Board will notify the organizations that participated in the competition process of the final result. Each provider that has not been found to be eligible by the Local Board will be notified by registered letter. The notification must include the reasons why they were not selected and must notify their right to request reconsideration by the Local Board. The request for reconsideration must be submitted by the parties interested within fifteen (15) days following the notification of the Board's determination. This request should be addressed to the President of the Local Board.

On the other hand, in order to promote the coordination of services, the efficiency in the provision of these, as well as facilitate the management and supervision of the contracts awarded, the Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías will not be accepting proposals for unique elements. All proponents must submit proposals for the offering of three (3) elements or more. This with the purpose of facilitating the provision of a menu of varied services and that can be offered in combination, or separate, at different times during the development of young people.

IX. List of Eligible Youth Service Providers: Hiring, Removal and/or Revocation

A. Recruitment

For the purposes of the formalization of the agreements, between the Local Board and the service providers, the Local Board of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías delegates to its Executive Director to participate in the contracts and / or agreements on their behalf.

The hiring of the provider of services to young people will be based on the requirements of the Guide of Instrucciones for the Preparation of Proposals. Any

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **16** of **16**

amendment to the contract must be made within the framework of the required services. Any work or service that will not fall within the scope of the work, according to the request for proposals, may not be included in the contract by means of an amendment. This violates the principle of competition under which the selection of suppliers occurs.

B. List of Eligible Youth Service Providers

The Local Board will evaluate youth service providers, during their participation in the Youth Service Providers List. The selected suppliers may form part of the list for a maximum period of two (2) years, with the possibility of extending their participation up to one (1) additional year. This extension must respond to pressing circumstances that make it impossible or difficult to hold the proceedings, as may be considered the number of youth that the provider may be serving at the time of the expiration of the contract and the satisfactory execution of it.

The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Labor Development Board adopts as a policy to keep the List of Eligible Providers open. This will allow free competition and participation of suppliers that have not been available at the time of the competitive process. In this case, the supplier must present to the Board its interest in joining the list and the Board will have the obligation to publish an announcement to open the competitive process, if there is the need and funds, so that others have, on equal terms, the opportunity to enter the List of Eligible Suppliers.

The Local Board may also hold a competitive process, at any time, if a vacancy or need for suppliers arises due to cancellation or termination of service contracts. This considered the obligation of the Board to maintain the fourteen (14) elements of the Youth Program, available to our participants.

Local Board for Labor Development Mayaguez - L a s Marias Public Policy for the Selection of Eligible Service Providers for the Youth Program Page **16** of **16**

C. Removal and/or Revocation of Eligible Providers



The Mayagüez - Las Marías Local Labor Development Board may revoke a provider's eligibility and remove it from the List for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The provider has intentionally offered false or incorrect information, including cost or service information.
- b. Has violated any provision of WIOA or contracting, including related to discrimination.
- c. Has not complied with the execution levels established for the Local Area of Labor Development Mayagüez - Las Marías.
- d. The provider been excluded ("debarred") by the federal government, which means that is disqualified from receiving federally subsidized contracts.

Once a service provider is revoked and removed from the Supplier List, it will not be able to participate in the competitive processes for a period of two (2) years, counted from the notification of the revocation. Once the provider has been revoked, the supplier will be responsible for reimbursing all funds received during the default period.

In cases where there are named and active participants in the youth program elements, participants may complete the program, unless the provider or program has lost, due to the state agenda concerned, the license, certification or authorization to operate. In this case, the Career Planner must review the participant's individual plan to redirect the services that allow him to meet the established goals.

X. SAFEGUARDS- CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In order to avoid a potential conflict of interest, the operational area of the Local Board may not be involved in matters related to the application, management, and evaluation of the selection of the service provider(s).

If the operational part of the Local Board, the local fiscal agent, the current providers of the Youth Program, the operator of the Single Management Center or an entity that is a direct service provider in the local area, compete for the opportunity to serve as a provider of the Youth Program, then cannot participate in the development of the application or in the award process.



In a similar manner, if at the time of beginning the evaluation of the proposals, a member of the Youth Committee becomes aware that there could be a possible conflict of interest, or the mere appearance of this, in relation to any of the proponents, must notify it immediately, and in writing, to the president of the Local Board and to be inhibited from the evaluation process. The President of the Local Board may appoint a substitute or alternate member to the Committee for the purposes of this process.

XI. REPEAL CLAUSE

This public policy repeals and replaces the Public Policy for the Selection of Youth Program Service Providers, approved on April 23, 2019, as well as any other provision incompatible with it.

XII. SEPARATABILITY CLAUSE

If any provision of this Public Policy is challenged, and subsequently declared unconstitutional or null by a court with jurisdiction and competence, all other provisions will remain in force and effect with all their strength and force.

XIII. <u>VALIDITY</u>

This Public Policy will be effective immediately after its approval and the contracts and / or agreements made dated July 1, 2021, onwards.

XIV. <u>APPROVAL</u>

José A. Justiniano Rodríguez President Local Board

22 of April of 2021 Date