

**Chapter 19: Youth  
Youth Competency Systems**

**Issue Date:**

**Effective Date:** April 1, 2002

**Required Action**

**Action:** Establish guidelines for establishment of Local Youth Competency Systems.

**Who:** All WSAs and youth service providers in the State of Minnesota.

**Background:** Youth Competency Systems as part of the local Performance Accountability System, must submit documentation describing their system in conjunction with the local youth services plan/update. The Youth Competency System must be approved by the Local Council. WSAs who have approved youth competency systems should review WIA older youth exiters to ensure that the WIA data reflects full credit for credentials earned through competency attainment.

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**Policies and Procedures:**

WSAs Competency gains are achieved through youth program participation and are tracked through sufficiently developed systems that include:

1. **Quantifiable Learning Objectives:** Competency statements are quantifiable, measurable and verifiable and offer proof of gain as a result of program participation.
  2. **Related Curricula, Training Modules, and Learning Activities:** Focused curricula, training modules, or behavior modification approaches that teach the competencies in which youth are found to be deficient.
  3. **Assessment** of participant needs at the start of the program.
  4. **Individualized Assessment Strategies** that document assessment results and assignment of participants to the right learning activities at the appropriate sites.
  5. **Evaluation** of participant achievement at the end of the program.
1. **Certification** of youth employment competency attainment in the form of certificates to participants.
  2. **Documentation** of intra-program learning gains achieved by young people through internal maintenance of enrollee files and external reporting of competency-based outcomes.

Examples of local Youth Competency Systems can be found on the youth website at [http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All\\_Programs\\_Services/Office\\_of\\_Youth\\_Development](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All_Programs_Services/Office_of_Youth_Development).

## Reference Section:

### Cites/References:

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Public law 105-220, Title I, Subtitle B, Sections 106 and 129(a)(1); Final Rules published in the August 11, 2000 Federal Register.

### Contacts:

Kay Tracy (voice: 651/259-7555; fax: 651/215-3842; TTY: 651/296-3900; email: [kay.tracy@state.mn.us](mailto:kay.tracy@state.mn.us))

### Youth website:

[http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All\\_Programs\\_Services/Office\\_of\\_Youth\\_Development](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/All_Programs_Services/Office_of_Youth_Development)