**WorkForce Center[[1]](#footnote-1) Required Partners**

Adult Basic Education administrators and teachers will benefit from understanding the roles of WIOA partners and the services these partners can provide in adult career pathway programming. The six programs outlined below are usually housed within the WorkForce Center. These six programs are considered “required partners” under WIOA.

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| **Six Core Federal WIOA Programs** | **Purpose of Program** | **How can these programs support adult learners on a career pathway?** | |
| **1) Adult Program** | This program is designed to provide employment and training services to individuals age 18 and older who are at or lower than a level of self-sufficiency. It also helps employers find the skilled workers they need to compete and succeed in business. | **Adults accessing this program can be recruited into Adult Career Pathways.**  These funds can provide support services to eligible individuals. Support services are designed to provide a participant with the resources necessary to enable their participation in career and training services such as Adult Career Pathways (ACP).  Supportive services may include, but are not limited to:  ∙ Assistance with transportation  ∙ Assistance with childcare and dependent care  ∙ Assistance with housing  ∙ Needs-Related Payments  ∙ Assistance with educational testing  ∙ Assistance with uniforms or other appropriate work attire and work-related tools  ∙ Assistance with books, fees, school supplies, and other necessary items for students enrolled in post-secondary education classes  ∙ Payments and fees for employment and training-related applications, tests, and certifications  ∙ Legal aid services | |
| **2) Dislocated Worker Program**  <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/dislocated-worker/> | The purpose of the Dislocated Worker program is to help dislocated workers become reemployed through job search assistance and/or training that builds their occupational skills to meet labor market needs. | | **Adults accessing this program can be recruited into Adult Career Pathways.**  These funds can provide support services to eligible individuals. Support services are designed to provide a participant with the resources necessary to enable their participation in career and training services such as Adult Career Pathways (ACP).  Supportive services may include, but are not limited to:  ∙ Assistance with transportation  ∙ Assistance with childcare and dependent care  ∙ Assistance with housing  ∙ Needs-Related Payments  ∙ Assistance with educational testing  ∙ Assistance with uniforms or other appropriate work attire and work-related tools  ∙ Assistance with books, fees, school supplies, and other necessary items for students enrolled in post-secondary education classes  ∙ Payments and fees for employment and training-related applications, tests, and certifications  ∙ Legal aid services |

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| **3) Youth Program**  <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/>  *Click on Programs for At-Risk Youth* | The Youth Program provides formula funded grants to state and local communities to operate a comprehensive array of youth services that help low-income eligible in-school and out-of-school youth. Program participants receive services such as occupational skills training, counseling, internships, job placements, mentoring, tutoring, leadership development, and support services**.** *Local communities provide youth activities and services in partnership with the American Job Center network and under the direction of local Workforce Development Boards.* | **Out-of-school youth, ages 17-24 can be recruited into Adult Career Pathways.**  (WIOA) Support Services – Items that are necessary for a youth to participate in WIOA programming, such as transportation, clothing, tools, child care, housing/rental assistance, school-related expenses, etc. These expenses may be paid directly to the youth or to a third-party vendor. |
| **4) Job Service**  <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/mn-job-service/> | Job Service focuses on providing a variety of employment-related labor exchange services, including but not limited to job search assistance, job referral, and placement assistance for job seekers; [re-employment services to unemployment insurance claimants](https://www.doleta.gov/programs/wprs.cfm); and recruitment services to employers with job openings. | **Adults accessing Job Service services can be recruited into Adult Career Pathways.** |
| **5) Vocational Rehabilitation Services**  <https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/>  **State Services for the Blind**  <https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/blind-visual-impaired/> | **Vocational Rehabilitation** (VR) is a state program which assists people with disabilities to obtain **services** that help them prepare to obtain and maintain employment.  The goal of VRS is to help youth and adults with disabilities to obtain and maintain competitive integrated employment.  Services are individualized depending on a person’s need.  They can include career counseling to help in identifying a job goal, training, job placement, and assistance with accommodations / assistive technology / other supports to help a person keep a job. | **Adults accessing Vocational Rehabilitation Services can be recruited into Adult Career Pathways.**  Financial assistance can include tuition, fees, books, supplies, tools and equipment for training.  If a person with a disability is in need of employment-related supports, introduce them to VR to see if they are eligible and if there are services that could assist them.  A person needs to have 3 or more of 7 functional limitations in order to be served directly.  Those with 2 or less are put on a waiting list.  The seven functional limitations that VRS reviews are:  Mobility, Self-Direction, Self-Care, Interpersonal Skills, Communication, Work Tolerance, and Work Skills. |
| **6) Adult Basic Education**  <http://mnabe.org/> |  |  |

*Compiled by Julie Dincau, Minnesota Department of Education (Sept. 2017)*

1. WorkForce Center is a branded term in Minnesota. WorkForce Centers are commonly referred to as One-Stop Centers and American Job Centers. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)