

EOWB Policy #: P-011	Effective Date: 10/11/2016
SELF-EMPLOYMENT (ENTREPRENEURIAL)	☒ New ☐ Revised
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that self-employment/entrepreneurial training is available to all WIOA Title I funded participants.

BACKGROUND

Section 134(c)(3)(D)(vii) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) cites "entrepreneurial training" (also known as self-employment training) as an allowable training service for adults and dislocated workers and requires local workforce development boards to make this training available to interested job seekers.

POLICY

Individuals eligible for services funded with WIOA Title I Adult and/or Dislocated Worker funds must be provided the opportunity to enroll in self-employment or entrepreneurial training programs as they are provided the opportunity to enroll in other WIOA-funded training, which is consistent with WIOA customer choice principles.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

All WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Service Providers will provide information on local training options for entrepreneurial training throughout the local WorkSource system to both staff and customers. Service provider staff will continue to include self-employment as an option for individuals eligible for WIOA Title I funded training and provide additional specific information regarding community organizations that work with those who are interested in starting businesses and self-employment.

Available opportunities to share program options include, but are not limited to:

- Coursework options at local community colleges
- Training options available at other approved providers
- Information available at local WorkSource offices
- Hotlinks and referral to self-employment organizations offering specific business start-up information and assistance

Courses already on the Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL) will be immediately available to individual's eligible to receive training funded by WIOA Title I, where appropriate. Training Providers not on the ETPL will be encouraged to submit an application as outlined in the ETPL Policy. Entrepreneurial coursework should provide adequate information for the WIOA funded participant to begin business startup. The coursework may include other components, but at a minimum, the WIOA funded participant must develop a business plan upon completion of training.

A variety of self-employment/entrepreneurship training resources are identified on Attachment 1.

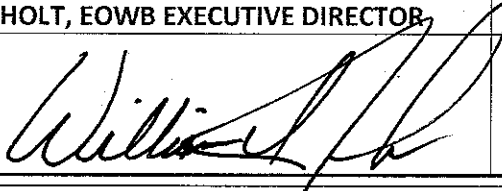
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INQUIRIES

Questions or inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Executive Director, Eastern Oregon Workforce Investment Board.

REFERENCE

- Section 134(c)(3)(D)(vii) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

APPROVED AT EWOB REGULAR MEETING	DATE: 10/11/2016
WILLIAM ROSHOLT, EOWB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/11/16
SIGNATURE 	DATE 10/11/16

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ATTACHMENT 1

RESOURCES WITHIN OREGON FOR ENTREPRENEURS

➤ OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE

The Business Xpress is a cooperative effort of state agencies designed as a first stop for starting a business in Oregon. An online Business Wizard provides customized referrals with information regarding government or organization contacts for your business. The How to Start a Business in Oregon guide (PDF) provides a checklist to guide you through the process of registering your business.

<http://sos.oregon.gov/business/Pages/starting-business.aspx>

➤ SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Oregon Business Resource page offers small businesses valuable information on state programs aimed at helping them thrive. For instance, the "Building Opportunities for Oregon Small Business Today" (BOOST) Fund offers loans and grants to promising small businesses in the state. The program focuses on companies with under 100 employees in the manufacturing, processing, and distribution industries and offers grants of up to \$2,500 per job created (or trained).

<http://www.sba.com/oregon>

➤ OregonStartups.com

A directory of the Oregon entrepreneur ecosystem.

<http://oregonstartups.com/index.php>

➤ BUSINESS OREGON

Business Oregon is the state's economic development agency. The Business Oregon Commission oversees the agency's activities to ensure a coherent, integrated approach to economic development and a continuous policy direction that can transcend changes in executive and legislative leadership.

<http://www.oregon4biz.com/About-Us/>

➤ Oregon Entrepreneurs Network (OEN)

The Oregon Entrepreneurs Network (OEN) opens doors. We connect entrepreneurs to a network of peers and mentors, startup funding opportunities, and hands-on training.

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A nonprofit, membership-driven organization with a 25-year track record, OEN is the heart of our entrepreneurial community. Our mission is to drive innovation, facilitate job creation, and put Oregon on the map as a center for entrepreneurial excellence.

<https://www.oen.org>

➤ **Oregon Small Business Development Center Network**

We provide assistance to anyone who owns, operates, or is starting a small business in Oregon. Our staff are knowledgeable business people whose goal is to help Oregon businesses to thrive. We know that you're busy, so we offer services that meet your needs and fit into your schedule.

<http://bizcenter.org/services/business-courses-training>

➤ **Self-Employment Assistance (SEA)**

The SEA program is an option for Unemployment Insurance claimants who have been identified as likely to run out of benefits before they return to work. Claimants are identified using a computerized mathematical formula called worker profiling.

SEA program participants may attend SEA counseling/training and can engage in self-employment activities on a full-time basis.

Participants must complete both a written business plan and a market feasibility study. The program operates as a collaborative effort between the Oregon Employment Department, and the Small Business Development Center Network (SBDC).

<http://www.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/Unemployment/Pages/SEA.aspx>