

Policy Name:	WIOA Youth Stipends Policy
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Owner	Youth Workforce Manager
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Policy:

Reference: Uniform Guidance § 200.75; 2 CFR Part 200 and USDOL TEGL 21-16

Stipends are allowable expenses for participants enrolled in Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and/or the New York State Gun Violence Prevention Initiative funded programs. Stipends are a fixed payment made to a WIOA Out-of-School Youth (OSY) participant for their successful education or training services program participation and completion. Stipends are intended to encourage and motivate WIOA youth to reach goals outlined in their Individual Service Strategy (ISS). These payments are not entitlements and are subject to availability of WIOA youth funds.

An eligible participant is defined as OSY at the time of enrollment by meeting the following criteria:

1. 16-24 years old;
2. High school dropout and other qualifying barriers and respective low-income requirements per WIOA;
3. Within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent 45-day school calendar year quarter;
4. Youth attending the following institutions or programs excluded by WIOA are considered not attending school for youth program eligibility determination:
 - a. An adult education program under WIOA Title II
 - b. Youth Build
 - c. Job Corps
 - d. A high school equivalency and dropout re-engagement program not funded by the public K-12 school system

A stipend may be used as an allowable payment for participation in elements such as Occupational Skills Training (OST) or classroom activities, and for other elements including alternative secondary education, education offered concurrently, Labor Market Information Services, Post-secondary Preparation, Financial Literacy and Leadership Development (e.g., work readiness, basic or employability skills training). Stipends may not exceed the Federal or New York State minimum wage, whichever is higher. Stipends may be based on actual hours of attendance and may be paid to participants for their successful participation in and completion of education or training services. This compensation can be given out in equal payments over a defined period.

Should an OSY be participating in an Occupational Skills Training (OST) or classroom training program that includes either paid or unpaid internships or work experience hours as part of its curriculum, the participant will not receive stipends for these designated training hours.

Stipend Payment Schedule:

Year	Stipend Amount*	Annual Maximum Hours Per Program Year	Annual Maximum Amount
2021	\$12 per hour	1,250	\$15,000
2022	\$13 per hour	1,250	\$16,250
2023	\$14 per hour	1,250	\$17,500
2024	TBD	1,250	TBD

***NOTE:** Stipend amounts may increase annually until the rate reaches \$15 hourly minimum wage for the remainder of New York State Workers, inclusive of Central New York. Starting in 2021 the annual increases will be published by the Commissioner of Labor on or before October 1. They will be based on increases determined by the Director of the Division of Budget, based on economic indices, including Consumer Price Index.