

NEW JERSEY STATE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING COMMISSION

POLICY RESOLUTION: SETC #2011-01

SUBJECT: Membership Criteria for Appointment of “Parent” to local Youth Investment Councils.

Purpose: To provide clarity on what constitutes the definition of a “parent” who must serve on local Youth Investment Councils.

Background:

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 requires the establishment of local Youth Investment Councils. Members are appointed by the local Workforce Investment Board and approved by the Chief Local Elected Official.

A required member of the Youth Investment Council is a Parent. Under WIA law, the Act requires “parents of eligible youth seeking assistance under this subtitle.” US DOL interpreted this language to mean that representatives for this membership category must come from families who currently experience the barriers described in WIA section 101(13)(A) and (B) and in Section 664.200 or 664.220 or who have faced those barriers in the past. This interpretation allows families who have successfully overcome their barriers to education and employment to have a voice on the Council.

While preferred there is no statutory requirement to have a youth serve on the Council under (WIA).

Therefore, it is recommended that the SETC establishes a policy to redefine the requirements that constitutes who meets the requirements as an “eligible” parent according to the US DOL interpretation as stated above.

Resolution:

It is hereby resolved that the State Employment and Training Commission formally approves the following eligibility definition for a “parent” serving on a Youth Investment Council as follows:

A parent serving on a Youth Investment Council must be a parent whose family currently or in the past has experienced the barriers described in WIA section 101 (13)(A) and (B) and in Section 664.200 or 664.220.

Furthermore, the Workforce Investment Board Member Handbook must be revised accordingly.

Approved: March 24, 2011