



State of Maryland Executive Department

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lieutenant Governor

Arlene F. Lee  
Executive Director

To: Local Management Board Chairs and Points of Contact

From: Kim Malat, Deputy Director

Date: December 23, 2015

Re: Question and Answer Recap #7

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- 1. In the past, I understood the income levels for adolescents to be eligible to receive funding (and related programming) through the local Workforce Investment Board to be so low that it was extremely difficult to identify applicants (though we had many people who would have benefited from the program with slightly higher family income levels). Has that amount increased with the new legislation, and if so, can you tell us how we can find the new eligibility levels?**

One of the new provisions in the United States Department of Labor's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Act) is that youth who may be classified as "high-risk" no longer have to meet income requirements to be eligible for services under Title I.

This policy brief is very helpful in fleshing out the changes: <http://www.clasp.org/resources-and-publications/publication-1/KeyProvisionsofWIOA-Final.pdf>.

Maryland's Title I policy has been updated to reflect this eligibility status. If a Maryland youth meets the standard for "out-of-school" then there is no income requirement. If a Maryland youth is "in-school" then the youth may still be eligible for services for disconnected youth if the youth meets the income requirement and is experiencing one or more of the an additional barriers listed in the Act:

- Basic skills deficient
- An English language learner
- An offender
- A homeless youth or a runaway, in foster care or has aged-out of the foster care system.
- Pregnant or parenting
- A youth who is an individual with a disability

- An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment.

(See <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/mpi/mpi4-15.pdf> )

Additionally, Maryland's policy permits some “in-school” youth to receive services, even if they do not meet the income requirement. See Page 7 of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation document for a complete list of criteria for eligibility. Up to 5% of all youth served by the local Workforce Investment Board, plus eligible youth with disabilities, may be served even if they do not meet the income requirement.

For more information regarding information on youth employment and training, you may contact:Carolynnette Scott at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation at [carolynnette.scott@maryland.gov](mailto:carolynnette.scott@maryland.gov).

**2. For the family support center model/two-generation approach, is the day care component eligible for Children’s Cabinet funding? What specific services can be funded in this model?**

Once again, we apologize but we are unable to specifically identify programs that will or will not be eligible for funding. Beginning with the Notice of Funding Availability in January, 2016 Local Management Boards will be required to present the process by which they determined and prioritized the programs or strategies proposed. The process for base funding and new funding will require the Board to demonstrate that all proposed programs address a critical need, fill a gap in services, have been prioritized by the community and the Board, and, for existing programs, have quantifiable outcomes.

For FY17 and FY18, there is no restriction on the types of programs or services funded by the base allocation. Boards may choose to fund prevention, intervention or treatment programs for any age along the developmental continuum, for families and for parents. This may include child care assistance, afterschool programs, home visiting programs, substance abuse treatment and all other programs that address a critical need and gap in services identified by the community and the Board.

For FY17 and FY18, new funding will be limited to programs and services that support Governor Hogan’s goals.

Also in FY17 and FY18 the Children’s Cabinet is providing tools and assistance for the Boards to diversify funding sources for programs that do not address Governor Hogan’s goals. This provides two full fiscal years to transition programs to new funding sources, with the goal of directing the Children’s Cabinet funding to Governor Hogan’s goals in FY19.

Also, please see Recap #6, Questions #5 and #6.

**3. Can we just use the base funding to continue funding our current programs during the transition years?**

Yes, Boards can propose current programs for funding under the base allocation but only if the proposal in response to the Notice of Funding Availability demonstrates through the community planning process that all programs:

- A. address a critical need;
- B. fill a gap in services;
- C. have been prioritized by the community and the Board; and,
- D. have demonstrated quantifiable outcomes that address the critical need.

**4. Can LMBs purchase an additional Results Scorecard™ license?**

Yes, Boards may purchase additional Results Scorecard™ licenses. Please contact Karen Finn at The Results Leadership Group, LLC for additional information.

**5. Is the Single Point of Access money included in the base funding?**

Yes, it is. Single Point of Access and Navigation are components of the Local Access Mechanism. Funds for the Local Access Mechanism were previously restricted as required match for federal grants that expired on 9/30/15. Because the federal grants have ended, funds are no longer restricted for Local Access Mechanism activities effective in FY16, ~~and~~ are part of the total program dollars that will be identified for level funding for FY17.

**6. Is it correct that prevention will no longer be funded but early intervention will?**

No, that is not correct. Please see Question #2.

**7. Will LMBs be able to apply for additional planning money to address the Governor Hogan's Goals?**

Yes, the Boards may propose to use funding for planning activities in FY17. This will be addressed in more detail in the Notice of Funding Availability to be issued in January 2016.

**8. Can the community plan include data and plans from community and agency partners or does it have to be an entirely new or independent process?**

The planning that is required for the FY17 Notice of Funding Availability does not have to be an entirely new or independent process. If the Board recently completed a needs assessment and/or strategic planning process, that information can be used to inform the community planning along with data, plans and needs assessments from local stakeholders. The planning process should not be duplicative, but instead, be constructed to result in a robust understanding of the needs, gaps and priorities in the jurisdiction.

**9. Do we need to have a single document as the community plan or can it be the compilation of information that went into the planning process?**

The format is not being dictated. Some Boards have chosen to create very detailed plans with significant data presented. Others have summarized the components of the community plan in brochures. For purposes of the Notice of Funding Availability for FY17, a summary document will be sufficient - the goal is to show how the Board arrived at their conclusions and proposed programs.

**10. What will be required to justify an increase in the amount of administrative funds requested?**

There is no specific cost analysis required. This is a local decision, and the Boards should be prepared to present their budget for administrative funding with a breakdown for each line item.

**11. What is GOC requiring LMBs use as the Conflict of Interest process?**

As always, the Local Management Board is required to comply with its adopted conflict of interest policies.

**12. There are rumors that GOC is trying to: eliminate some or all of the LMBs; centralize the funding; take away local authority; and/or, move money away from the rural jurisdictions to fund Baltimore City because this is "the year of Baltimore". Is any of this true?**

No, and while it is not useful to spend time on rumors we do want to dispel these concerns. Governor Hogan has made restoring Maryland's economy his principal priority and firmly believes that continually improving human capital is vital for economic growth. In addition to creating jobs Governor Hogan has stressed the importance of helping struggling Maryland families, to put them on a pathway to economic stability and opportunity. The Children's Cabinet adopted a plan to contribute to the goal of economic success guided by several important principles:

- **Maximize State Resources:** Invest State resources in coordinated, research-based approaches that support improved outcomes for children, youth, and families, consistent with child and public safety needs;
- **Measurable Outcomes:** Ensure system-wide technical assistance, training, coordination, and accountability with identified results and indicators of success;
- **Local Authority:** Increase local capacity to plan, implement, and monitor children, youth, and families' services on an interagency basis; and
- **Targeted Funding:** Ensure the interagency budget for children, youth, and family services reflects the priorities of the Governor and the Children's Cabinet and has the flexibility to address these priorities through the development of new funding sources and partnerships.

An important component of the plan is to provide the Boards an opportunity to assess their communities and develop steps for a transition. The Children's Cabinet and the Governor's Office for Children have developed a number of strategies to both assist the Boards with the transition and to strengthen the Boards:

- A. Transition time for Local Management Board planning
- B. Two new staff dedicated to providing onsite technical assistance to the Boards

- C. Regional trainings on five topics: youth homelessness, youth engagement, disconnected youth, parental incarceration and home visiting
- D. Implementation of Results Scorecard™
- E. Funding for resource development to address the four Strategic Goals
- F. Funding for planning to address the four Strategic Goals
- G. Tools and resources to diversify funding for current programs

The goal is to have 24 strong Boards with solid plans and effective services that assist struggling families.

**13. What should an LMB do if they feel they are getting inconsistent messages from GOC?**

Please contact Kim Malat or Patricia Arriaza if it appears that there is an inconsistency or if something has become confusing. It is our goal to provide clear and consistent guidance and notifying us of anything that seems to be inconsistent will help us improve the process.