



WIOA Funding for Registered Apprenticeship

A Local Guide for Sponsors and Employers

WHAT IS WIOA FUNDING?

WIOA (Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act) provides federal funding for workforce training and upskilling to each county, with funding criteria set by a local Workforce Development Board (WDB).

WIOA funding is typically available to partially reimburse a business for training **new employees** who meet disadvantaged and/or unemployment criteria. Some counties also provide WIOA funding to upskill **incumbent workers**. Both types of WIOA funding, and more, may be available for apprentices.

HOW DOES WIOA FUNDING VARY FROM COUNTY TO COUNTY?

1. *Your local PA CareerLink® can determine if a new apprentice qualifies* for WIOA funding (typically, if an apprentice has been recently laid off, unemployed, or underemployed, they will qualify).
2. Apprenticeship employers work with their local WDB or PA CareerLink® for funding. If you are in a grant-funded group sponsorship, local WIOA funding can be used in addition.
3. Each time an apprentice employer inquires about using the funds and/or qualifying an apprentice, there could be changes to the funding availability or funding criteria. Each county determines these changes.
4. Apprentice employers may qualify for WIOA funding in the county where they are located and/or the county where the apprentice is located. This is subject to the discretion of each individual county.
5. OJT Funding, when available, reimburses a percentage of a new apprentice employee's salary for part of their apprenticeship. Some counties also provide OJT funds for incumbent employee apprentice training.
6. IWT Funding can be used to reimburse a percentage of an apprentice's RTI (online or classroom learning associated with apprenticeship). WIOA ITA Funds may also help the employer pay for some RTI costs.
7. Reverse Referral-WIOA funding can be used for apprentices you hire through any means and sometimes can even be used for incumbent workers. It does not only apply to apprentices hired through the local PA CareerLink®, although any apprentice eligible for funding will have to schedule a time to register at the local PA CareerLink® prior to the start of training for an incumbent worker or the start date for a new hire apprentice.

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS KEY

WIOA Funding

OJT: On-the-Job Training (Reimbursement to a business for part of new hire training for a specific amount of time.)

IWT: Incumbent Worker Training (Helps pay for the related technical instruction, RTI, required in apprenticeship.)

ITA: Individual Training Account (Can also sometimes be applied to RTI.) CJT: Customized Job Training (Funds cohorts.)

Registered Apprenticeship

OJL: (On-the-Job Learning, sometimes referred to as OJT) 2,000 hours per apprenticeship year of competencies.

RTI: (Related Technical Instruction) Online or classroom, minimum of 144 hours per apprenticeship learning.

YOUR LOCAL APPRENTICESHIP NAVIGATOR FOR BUCKS AND MONTCO CAN HELP YOU

Contact Adina Tayar, Regional Apprenticeship Coordinator, for assistance at atayar@edsolutions.com or 267-254-1225.