



WIA Funding

FAQ

What is the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)?

On August 7, 1998, President Clinton signed the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), comprehensive reform legislation that supersedes the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and amends the Wagner-Peyser Act. WIA is a federally funded training and job program that provides workforce investment activities through statewide and local systems. Authorized workforce investment activities provided at the local level benefit job seekers, dislocated workers, youth, foster care participants, incumbent workers, new entrants to the workforce, veterans, persons with disabilities, and employers. These activities stimulate an increase in employment, job retention, earnings, and occupational skill attainment by participants. The outcome, of these activities, improves the quality of the workforce, reduces the need for public assistance and enriches the productivity and effectiveness of the country.

Who qualifies for WIA funding?

Many people can qualify for WIA funded programs. The categories of funding at a workforce center are mostly budgeted into Adult, Dislocated Worker, Older Youth and Younger Youth. The bulk of funding is planned toward adult and dislocated workers. These are workers who are usually in need of more current job skills or who are unemployed and looking for work. Clients approved for WIA funding, pursue training to update current skills or learn skills for a new career in a demand occupation.

What is the approval process for WIA participants?

Prospective WIA participants must visit a One-Stop* center to find out if they are eligible to receive WIA grant funding. Prospective students who are good candidates for the program will meet with a WIA specialist who will help guide them through the WIA process.

What happens after classes begin?

As a WIA student at Vista College, you have been approved for the specific program of study, classes, and costs shown on your academic plan and on your WIA contract. There are special provisions that apply to you as a continuing WIA student. Keep a copy of your approved academic plan, placement scores and contracts in a safe place. These are important documents that you may need to refer to in the future.

Keep close contact with your case manager at the One-Stop center. Each agency has specific requirements for funding your education. In most cases, funding your training program must be submitted each term by the agency and is contingent upon you submitting

satisfactory progress, attendance records, etc. It is your responsibility to meet these requirements in a timely manner so that WIA can make the required payment(s) necessary to apply funds to your financial aid account.

What happens while I am in school?

Keeping in touch with your WIA case manager and the Vista College agency representative is important to your success. Tracking your performance is important to successful completion of your training program. Your case manager will provide progress or performance review forms that must be completed by a designated official at your campus. You may also have to provide proof of attendance if you are receiving supportive services. Your agency representative will be able to assist with the completion and submission of forms. Remember that you are ultimately responsible for working with your case manager and agency representative to ensure program completion.

What if there are changes to my academic plan?

Any and all changes to your original academic plan require approval by WIA. Your Vista College Agency Representative may have to prepare a revision to your academic plan. This includes course changes, substitutions or additional costs by term. Changes not approved by WIA are the responsibility of the student.

What if a situation occurs where I cannot attend a class?

WIA requires attendance in all classes, which is necessary to be a successful student. In the event of sickness or emergency, please notify your instructor and ensure you have a plan in place to make up missed work.

What if I am having difficulty with a class?

Vista College has many resources available to students in need of additional support. Schedule an appointment with your Vista College Agency Representative to discuss your need.

Helpful links

[New Mexico Residents](#), [Texas Residents](#), [Utah Residents](#)

*[Find a local workforce center](#)