

The Ulster County Office of Employment & Training (OET) utilizes a Youth Incentive Policy as part of the WIA/WIOA Youth Employment Program (YEP), in an effort to promote and reward behaviors and outcomes that will enhance efforts to meet or exceed WIA Youth Common Measures/WIOA Performance Measures and NYS Customer Service Indicators. All youth registered in the Ulster County OET WIA/WIOA YEP (both the in-house and contracted programs) are eligible to receive cash incentive awards, based on the following guidelines. A limit of \$400 earned incentives per individual youth is imposed (not including payments for follow-up information). Contracted programs must submit all proposed incentive payments, including a copy of the verification documentation, to OET in advance for approval prior to payment of incentive award.

- A payment of \$100 will be paid to an individual who enters the program without a high school diploma or HSE, and who earns a high school diploma or HSE (either receives the HSE or attains HSE status) as part of their participation in the program. Proof of attainment shall include a copy of the high school diploma, HSE (or letter of attainment), or verification of same by issuing agency.
- A payment of \$100 will be paid to an individual who receives an occupational certification (as defined by the Ulster County Workforce Investment/Development Board) as part of their participation in the program. Only one occupational certification may be paid per individual youth, as defined in the Individual Service Strategy (ISS). Proof of attainment shall include a copy of the certificate or verification of same by issuing agency.
- A payment of \$100 will be paid to an individual who receives a Driver's License as part of their participation in the program. Proof of attainment shall include a copy of the license issued by the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles.
- A payment of \$50 will be paid to an individual who is required to take a post-test as defined by the WIA Common Measures/WIOA Performance Measures, who is still active, and who completes the post-test within one year of entering the program. Proof of attainment shall include verification by testing agency.
- A payment of \$100 will be paid to an individual who is required to take a post-test as defined by the WIA Common Measures/WIOA Performance Measures, who is still active, and who passes the post-test within one year of entering the program. Proof of attainment shall include verification by testing agency.
- A payment of \$50 will be paid to an individual who takes the National Work Readiness Credential test (as defined by the NYS Department of Labor) as part of their participation in the program. Proof of attainment shall include a copy of the certificate or verification of same by issuing agency. (This replaces the prior stipend for achieving a Worker Readiness Credential as defined by the Ulster County WIB/WDB.)
- A payment of \$100 will be paid to an individual who takes the National Work Readiness Credential test (as defined by the NYS Department of Labor) as part of their participation in the program, and who passes the test. Proof of attainment shall include a copy of the certificate or verification of same by issuing agency.
- A payment of \$50 will be paid to an individual who provides all the appropriate information as required during a post-program follow-up survey. Proof of attainment shall include verification by coordinator and entry of information into OSOS.
- A payment of \$300 will be paid to an individual who completes an employability skills training in conjunction with a paid work experience, as approved by the Ulster County WIB/WDB. Proof of attainment shall include a sign-off of course completion by the instructor.

The Office of Employment & Training will entertain additional incentive options submitted by youth contract agencies. All proposed options must be submitted formally in writing for approval by the OET Director. If the submission is approved, additional incentives may be included as part of this formal written policy.