

ALABAMA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEM

Alabama Department of Commerce
Workforce Development Division
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February 29, 2016

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INNOVATION DIRECTIVE NO. PY2015 - 14

SUBJECT: Distance Learning via the Internet

1. Purpose. This Directive transmits the State's policy regarding distance learning via the Internet for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Individual Training Account (ITA) participants.

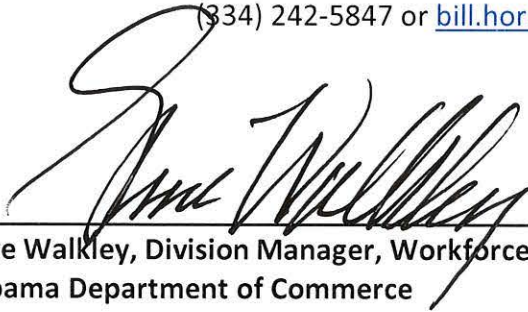
2. Discussion. Under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the State issued a State policy (and subsequent revisions as necessitated by changing times) regarding distance learning via the Internet. With the implementation of the WIOA beginning on July 1, 2015, it is necessary to review prior WIA policies to determine if they warrant being updated and reissued as WIOA policies. The "distance learning policy" is one that is still relevant under the WIOA program pursuant to review and feedback from the four Area Managers for the Alabama Career Center System. In order to be considered in this policy, the course must be a required course in the occupational training being pursued by the participant. The allowable costs are for tuition, books, fees, etc. related to distance learning courses. The costs of computers, Internet service, and related costs necessary for distance learning are the responsibility of the participant.

The rationale is that the focus is on short-term technical training and the majority of those courses cannot be taught online. The 50 percent allowance should allow for "core" courses in academics and computer skills to be paid for with WIOA funds.

The workforce development areas may adopt this policy or each one may issue its own policy for participants funded with local funds.

3. Action. Staff responsible for enrollment of participants into ITA programs should ensure that this policy is adhered to in regard to distance learning courses; or if the local workforce development area develops a local policy, it should be followed by enrollment staff. Also, it is the responsibility of the enrolling agency staff to ensure that the program meets all of the requirements noted in this policy.

4. Contact. Questions or comments concerning this Directive should be referred to Bill Hornsby, Supervisor, Workforce Development Division, State Programs, Planning and Divisional Budget Management Section at (334) 242-5847 or bill.hornsby@commerce.alabama.gov.



2/29/2010

Steve Walkley, Division Manager, Workforce Development Division
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Date