



ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

Trainee Eligibility On-the-Job Training (OJT) may be provided to eligible Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) trainees who are assessed and found to be in need of and suitable for training services in order to obtain or retain employment that leads to self-sufficiency. The trainees must demonstrate a need for training as recorded on the Individual Employment Plan (IEP) or Individualized Service Strategy (ISS). Employers will have the final selection authority for individuals to be hired. All trainees must meet certain WIOA eligibility criteria before training can begin. Only those individuals who meet the eligibility requirements for career services, who have received an assessment, and for whom an IEP or ISS has been developed may be considered for OJT. An individual referred as a potential candidate for OJT by an employer (reverse referral) may be considered for OJT with that employer only after the individual has met eligibility requirements for career services, has received an assessment, and for whom an IEP or ISS has been developed that indicates OJT is appropriate. A currently employed worker may be placed in an OJT with the same employer when the OJT supports acquisition of new skills necessary for upgrading to a new job that requires substantially different higher-level skills and the current employee as a result of successfully completing the OJT is expected to receive an upgrade to a higher-level position and an increase in pay. Consideration should be given to the skill requirements of the occupation, academic and occupational skill level of the trainee, prior work experience, and the trainee's IEP or ISS. The results of an objective assessment, as documented on the individual's IEP or ISS, must indicate that the trainee is in need of, and can benefit from, the activity of OJT. The IEP or ISS must capture the past work history of the applicant from the official file, assess the test results, capture additional information from the applicant about past work experience, hobbies, volunteer experience, and identify strengths and weaknesses of the applicant. It must include documentation as to the new skills to be acquired during training and how skills gap deficiencies will be overcome with the training.

Employer Eligibility The hiring and training may begin after the OJT Pre-Award Analysis form has been completed and the OJT Employer Agreement has been signed by all the parties. The trainee becomes an employee of the company on the day the OJT begins. Operational Guidance: OG 22-2021, Change 1 On-the-Job Training Policy Attachment A Page 1 of 5 Staff should give careful consideration when selecting a suitable employer for OJT. General business practices in terms of working conditions (safety, health), the availability of health benefits, sustainable wage structure, turnover rates, adequate staff and equipment to carry out the training, and whether the employer is in compliance with federal, state, and local laws

are factors to consider while completing the OJT Pre-Award Analysis form. When considering an employer to participate as an OJT worksite, staff should carefully review and determine the nature of the employment to ensure the employment is ongoing and not temporary, probationary, or intermittent employment. An OJT contract must be limited to the period of time required for a trainee to become proficient in the occupation for which training is being provided. In determining the appropriate length of the training, consideration must be given to the skill gaps that exist when comparing the skill requirements of the occupation and the academic and occupational skill level of the trainee, prior work experience, and the trainee's IEP.

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