

LOCAL ITA POLICIES

Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, Inc. LWIA #26

The Individual Training Account (ITA) is established for eligible Adult and Dislocated Worker individuals to finance training services. The law provides several exceptions when contracts may be used instead of ITAs, as outlined below:

1. When the services provided are on-the-job training (OJT) or customized training;
2. When the Board determines that there are an insufficient number of eligible providers in the local area to accomplish the purpose of a system of ITAs; or
3. When the Board determines that there is a training services program of demonstrated effectiveness offered in the area by a community-based organization (CBO) or another private organization to serve special participant populations that face multiple barriers to employment.

To be in compliance with the statutory requirement to utilize ITAs to the extent practical, the area at a minimum must:

1. Expend the majority (i.e. at least 51 percent (51%) of combined costs incurred through ITAs and training contracts under the adult and dislocated worker programs through individual training accounts; or
2. Serve the majority (i.e. at least 51 percent (51%) of adult and dislocated worker customers receiving training services through ITAs.
3. The 51 percent (51%) minimum criterion is set as low as possible to allow flexibility while still meeting the statutory requirement.
 - a. This policy is intended to allow the area to pursue alternative training opportunities to expand training choices and better link workforce and economic development.

If it is determined by the Board that there are insufficient eligible providers in the area to accomplish the purposes of the Act and complies with the requirements of 20 CFR 663.430 the area may be in the position of not using ITAs at all or minimally. The Area will also be considered to be in compliance regardless of the percent of combined adult and dislocated worker training funds expended through ITAs.

Limitations on use of ITA's

In WIOA #26 ITA's will be used to assist in financing the cost of the following types of training: short and long term vocational, associate degree, job readiness, entrepreneurial training, workforce education when combined with co-operative education, skill upgrading and retraining, and adult education and literacy services combined with any of the above services. It is the intent of the LWIB to set caps on the dollar amount of individual ITAs by the type of services listed below.

These caps are based on historical records and actual costs of various training programs available through the Community College system. For short term vocational training the cap will be set at \$7,500; for long term training the cap will be set at \$17,500; and for associate degree directed training the cap will be set at \$25,000. For bachelor degree directed training the cap will be set at \$35,000. WIOA Title ID and IA funding can only be used toward a bachelor degree training if that degree can be obtained with ninety-five (95) credit hours or less. ITAs will not be used for OJT or customized training.

Service providers may request an ITA cap increase on a client specific basis with prior approval from the Southern 14 Board. Due to time constraints, approval may be given by either the Southern 14 Board Chair or the Southern 14 Executive Director.

Re-Enrollment

ITA clients who drop out and are exited from a program, if re-enrolled, will be given a new ITA (Individual Training Account).