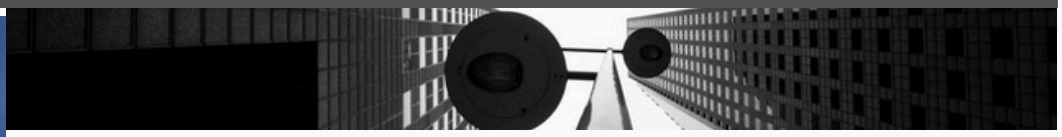
NOVEMBER 2026

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER





Part 4: WIOA Title 1B Youth Out of School

This guide is meant to help our local area understand the basic eligibility criteria for Illinois Workforce Development. Understanding who is responsible at the local level for each WIOA program is essential. That is where the newsletter is going to assist you over the next few issues!

WIOA Title 1B Youth Out of School provides career services, on the job training, work experience, supportive services, and other services for Youth Out of School. To be eligible you must be between the ages of 16-24 at the time of enrollment and eligible to work in the United States. You must also be Selective Service compliant with at least one of of the following, a high school drop out, within the age of compulsory school attendance but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter, a recipient of a high school/high school equivalent diploma who is a low-income individual and is: basic skills deficient; or an English language learner, or justice involved.

If you or someone you know may benefit from Title 1B Youth Out of School services and you live in Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Saline, Wabash, Wayne or White County please contact Ryan Trueblood at 618-963-2387 or if you live in Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, or Union County please contact Sandy Jones at 618-634-2201.

In the next issue, we will discuss WIOA Title 1B Youth In School.

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting: December 8th
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi, IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-8869

WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

WADI currently has 8 Work Experience staff in place at various businesses: Village of West Salem, City of Eldorado, Big Mound Township, Frontier Community College, Fairfield Community College, Fairfield Memorial Hospital, and at the Wayne and Saline WADI locations. WADI has 55 participants in the following programs: 2 Early Childhood, 6 CDL, 2 Criminal Justice, 1 office administration, 1 auto technology, 1 diesel equipment, 1 welding, 30 Nursing, 2 medical coding, 2 medical assistant, 1 medical lab technician, 1 radiography, 2 Physical Therapy, & 3 Certified Nursing Assistants. Finally they also currently have 3 OJT participants at MotoRad and 1 at Rides Mass Transit.

SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

SDC WIOA has 94 active participants for the Fall 2026 semester in the following programs: Phlebotomy, CNA, Truck Driving, Automotive, Cosmetology, Nail Tech, LPN, ADN, CNA, Phlebotomy, Welding, Computer System and Security Specialist, HVAC, OTA, Medical Assistant, Medical Office Assistant, and Patient Care Tech. SDC WEX has added 1 Adult and 1 Youth Out of School this month. SDC currently has workers in Alexander, Pulaski, and Hardin counties. They also have a total of 4 clients on the WEX program and are looking to add another Youth Out of School next week. WIOA staff have attended the following: October 6-7th": First Annual Inaugural Illinois Workforce Association Conference, October 15th: State of Illinois Career Fair, October 21st: SCC Cairo Meeting with Construction Students, and on October 26-29th: State Monitoring for WIOA Files was completed.

AREA UPDATE

Southeastern Illinois College is launching a new Oil and Natural Gas Technician Short Certificate program in January 2027, offering students an opportunity to gain industry-focused skills in just one semester.

Offered in partnership with the Illinois Petroleum Resources Board (IPRB), the 16- to 19-credit-hour program will be held at SIC's Stanford D. Williams Career and Training Center in Carmi. Classes begin Jan. 11 and continue through May 13, meeting Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9:50 p.m.

The program is designed for students ages 18 and older who want to enter the oil and natural gas industry or pursue a career change. Current high school seniors who meet the age requirement are also eligible to enroll.

Students will receive training in oil and gas production, hydraulic power systems, artificial lift systems, welding, and workplace safety. The curriculum also includes Oil and Gas Production Safety training and an internship to provide exposure to industry operations. Graduates may pursue entry-level opportunities with oil and gas production companies, drilling companies and related employers.

Students interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to visit sic.edu/ONG or contact SIC Advising at 618-252-5400, ext. 4130, or advising@sic.edu.

*Currently, this is not on the Eligible Training Provider List for WIOA Customers due to it not being on the Demand Occupation List.

CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication! Thanks!!

HOW TO SERIES:

Now that you can add customers and create referrals. You can also manage incoming referrals.

Manage Incoming Referrals

1. Filter the results by status.
2. Select the referral and review the information. Once viewed, the referral status will automatically be marked as received.
3. Contact the customer and update the referral with the appropriate status. The status will be updated in the timeline at the top of the referral.
4. Filter results to find referrals that need to be updated because they are either incomplete or not closed.

IDES
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Released: Oct 22, 2026

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

Labor Market Area	Sep 2026	Sep 2025	Over-the-Year Change
Carbondale Area			
Jackson County	4.2%	4.7%	-0.5
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	4.0%	5.3%	-1.3
Hamilton County	3.9%	4.6%	-0.7
Hardin County	4.0%	5.2%	-1.2
Pope County	5.3%	5.5%	-0.2
Saline County	3.7%	4.7%	-1.0
White County	3.8%	4.7%	-0.9
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	6.3%	4.4%	1.9
Lawrence County	3.9%	4.7%	-0.8
Richland County	3.3%	3.9%	-0.6
Wabash County	3.9%	4.1%	-0.2
Wayne County	4.0%	4.5%	-0.5
Regional Counties			
Alexander County	5.5%	6.6%	-1.1
Franklin County	4.5%	5.0%	-0.5
Jefferson County	4.4%	4.9%	-0.5
Johnson County	4.3%	4.7%	-0.4
Massac County	3.6%	4.2%	-0.6
Perry County	4.2%	4.9%	-0.7
Pulaski County	5.2%	6.1%	-0.9
Union County	3.7%	4.2%	-0.5
Williamson County	3.6%	4.3%	-0.7
Cities			
Carbondale City	4.9%	5.5%	-0.6
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	3.4%	4.2%	-0.8
LWIA 24	3.5%	4.2%	-0.7
LWIA 25	4.1%	4.7%	-0.6
LWIA 26	4.0%	4.6%	-0.6
Southern EDR	4.1%	4.7%	-0.6

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -250 jobs in September 2026, compared to September 2025.

Employment gains were posted in Construction (+25) and Leisure-Hospitality (+25).

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Government and Natural Resources-Mining.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-100), Manufacturing (-50), Other Services (-50), Private Education-Health Services (-50), Professional-Business Services (-50), Financial Activities (-25) and Information (-25) sectors.

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm payrolls increased by +175 jobs in September 2026, compared to September 2025.

Employment gains were posted in Private Education-Health Services (+100), Construction (+75), Professional-Business Services (+50), Financial Activities (+25), Government (+25), Manufacturing (+25) and Natural Resources-Mining (+25).

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Leisure-Hospitality (-50), Information (-25), Other Services (-25) and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-25) sectors.

Olney - Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -650 jobs in September 2026, compared to September 2025.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+50), Information (+25), Professional-Business Services (+25) and Trade-Transportation-Utilities (+25).

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Manufacturing (-575), Leisure-Hospitality (-50), Other Services (-50), Construction (-25), Financial Activities (-25), Natural Resources-Mining (-25) and Private Education-Health Services (-25) sectors.