

Questions from YouthWorks January 24, 2019 Summer Application Webinar

1. Would youth and young adults dislocated as a result of hurricanes or other natural disasters be considered vulnerable youth?

Dislocation as a result of a hurricane or other natural disaster would not be an automatic qualifier for participants to be included in the 20% vulnerable youth service goals, but we would welcome local programs' assessment of whether the situation along with other specific factors creates a context of increased barriers. Programs are encouraged to reach out to CommCorp as they consider how best to interpret the more broadly-defined vulnerable youth policy for this summer.

2. Would youth and young adults who are DCF-involved but not in foster care be considered vulnerable youth?

If a potential participant has an open DCF case, but has not been referred to foster care, the participant would still be considered a vulnerable youth.

3. Is the policy still in place that allows programs to serve up to 10% of participants from towns and cities outside the designated YouthWorks cities?

Yes, all programs may serve up 10% of their total participants from towns and cities outside of the designated YouthWorks cities.

4. Is Signal Success being updated, and if so, when will the new version be available? What kinds of training opportunities will be available before summer programming?

The standard version of Signal Success is being revised and will be available by the April YouthWorks convening. Training for new and seasoned staff will be offered in late April through early May. Programs that have additional local training needs are encouraged to request customized local trainings.

5. Is the May 29, 2019, deadline the date by which training needs to be started or completed or is it just the date to submit training schedules for participants?

Programs are asked to provide their training schedule complete with times, locations, and staff by May 29 or two weeks before the start of training, whichever comes first.

6. When and what types of training and support will be available to help programs transition to using Apricot?

A revised Apricot user guide will be available in late March and we will offer training in April or May. Additionally, CommCorp technical assistance staff will be available throughout the spring and summer to support programs who need additional assistance using Apricot.

7. For the 14-15-year-old work/service learning pilots, is there a maximum allowable amount for the stipend?

All of the pilot programs have general funding guidelines for cost and number of participants to be served. Please see the chart below, which is also on Page 10 of the application package. The expectation is that the stipend for the 14-15 year old work/service learning pilot will not exceed the state minimum wage.

Example of Total Funding Request	Number of Participants to be Served		
	Pilot A — Alignment between YouthWorks and Connecting Activities	Pilot B — Implementation of industry-focused career pathway opportunities	Pilot C — Cohort-based work and service learning models for 14-15 year olds
\$10,000	10 to 15	N/A	N/A
\$20,000	20 to 30	N/A	10 to 15
\$30,000	30 to 45	N/A	15 to 25
\$40,000	40 to 60	10 to 12	20 to 32
\$50,000	50 to 75	13 to 15	N/A
\$60,000	N/A	16 to 18	N/A
\$70,000	N/A	19 to 21	N/A
\$80,000	N/A	22 to 25	N/A

8. Are the pilot programs subject to the financial guidelines that 60 -70% of the grant needs to go to youth wage?

All of the pilot programs have general funding guidelines for cost and number of participants to be served. Please see the chart above, which is also on Page 10 of the application package. The funds for the YouthWorks/ Connecting Activities program should not be used for youth wages because the pilot is designed to work with a subset of existing summer YouthWorks participants to find unsubsidized employment. For the other two pilots, the amount of the funds designated to youth wage are at the discretion of individual programs, but youth wage will be considered alongside issues of recruitment and retention when pilot programs are evaluated for funding.

9. Do the regular eligibility requirements (income, age, place of residence, etc.) still apply to the pilot programs?

Income, residence, and age requirements are all still applicable, and the service learning pilot is further restricted to the subset of those youth who are age 14-15.

10. Can some of the funds for the YouthWorks/Connecting Activities pilot be used to support Connecting Activities sub-contracts?

The purpose of the funds for the YouthWorks Connecting Activities pilot is to cover the staff and program costs associated with local YouthWorks programs collaborating with Connecting Activities staff to support participants with assistance in obtaining unsubsidized work opportunities. In recognition of the fact that various Connecting Activities programs operate differently, it would be acceptable to designate some of the funds as a sub-contract. In order to maximize the impact of funding and build off existing capacities, programs are encouraged to consider which Connecting Activities school partnerships make the most sense for the goals of this particular pilot.

11. For the pilot programs is there still a 20% vulnerable youth requirement?

With regard to the 20% vulnerable youth category, we will not apply this requirement to any of the pilots because we find that it is a real challenge to add so many specific requirements to smaller sub-set cohorts, but we do ask that programs be thoughtful about how to support participants who may be both a good fit for the pilots and have additional risk factors, such as those described in the vulnerable youth definition. Finally, if programs are able to serve vulnerable youth in their pilot programs, they may document these participants as part of their overall vulnerable youth program goals.

12. For the pilot programs is the allowable admin rate 5 or 10% and do the other guidelines about allowable and non-allowable costs apply?

Since all of the pilots will be grants of less than \$150,000, the allowable admin rate will be up to 10%. Guidelines about allowable and non-allowable costs are still applicable.

13. Are the pilot programs subject to a financial match requirement?

There is not a required financial match associated with any of the pilots, but we do ask program to document any match that they receive and to lift up best practices in blending and braiding of other public funding if that is applicable in your program plan.

14. How many YouthWorks Year Round grants do you anticipate funding?

With \$800,000 set aside for YouthWorks Year Round 2019-2020, we anticipated funding 9 to 12 programs.