

## Youth Services Programs

Goodwill WIA Youth Services offers educational and employment services to more than 700 students annually. Our staff is qualified and dedicated to improving the lives of young adults and working with them to increase their opportunities of being self-sufficient, contributing members of our community. This program is available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, or religion.



### WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

The WIA Youth Services program is funded by Workforce Solutions--Capital Area Workforce Development Board and is provided through a partnership with other local youth service providers. Services are designed to help youth stay in school, return to school, prepare for, find and keep employment.

*With this program you can:*

- Finish your GED or High School Diploma.
- Get paid work experience.
- Explore careers and learn how to find and keep a job.



➤ **Attend a WIA Youth Services Orientation to learn more about our services!**



### GED PREPARATION

One-on-one tutoring at each individual's pace to prepare for the exam and receive testing voucher.

### HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

One-on-one case management available for students attending approved priority schools.

### JOB READINESS TRAINING

Free classes and individual assistance in job searching, exploring certificate training programs and colleges available (including filling out FAFSA), resume assistance, interviewing skills, and career counseling and guidance.

### CASE MANAGEMENT

Guidance and resources provided by Employability Specialists to provide the tools youth need to overcome barriers to education and employment. Support in identifying key community agencies to help youth meet their goals and become self sufficient and successful in education and employment.

### PAID AND UNPAID WORK EXPERIENCES

Internship opportunities available to youth to explore career options in the community.

➤ **Who can participate?**

- All youth must attend an orientation held at the Workforce Solutions Centers in north, east, and south Austin.
- Contact Goodwill (512) 637-7100 or Leah Winsberg (512) 748-5574 for orientation information.
- All youth must be Travis County residents between the ages of 14-21 and must meet the annual poverty guideline for their household income.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### ***What is WIA?***

A: It stands for Workforce Investment Act, which is a federally funded program designed to help people find work and get the proper education and training they need to be successful.

### ***How do I become involved with the program?***

A: Attend an orientation to see if this is a program for you.

### ***What services does WIA offer?***

A: Assistance to finish your High School Diploma or GED. Obtain paid and unpaid work experience. Learn how to find a job and keep it. Learn about careers and training programs.

### ***What are the eligibility requirements?***

A: You must be a US citizen/registered alien, resident of Travis County, between 14-21 years of age, income must meet the annual poverty guideline, and have a "barrier" to employment (which will be explained at orientation).

### ***What do I take to orientation?***

A: Yourself!

### ***What happens after orientation?***

A: Call the Eligibility Specialist and make an appointment to take the TABE test. When your scores are graded, the Eligibility Specialist will contact you and discuss your eligibility into the program.

### ***I am in HS, can I still receive services?***

A: Yes, if there is a WIA Case Manager at your school. Contact your school counselor or Communities in Schools office to see if your school is a priority population and is served.

### ***I am not 18, do I need a parent with me at orientation?***

A: No, but it might be helpful to have them there with you so they can learn about the program as well.

### ***Can I get in the program if I am 16 or younger and dropped out of school?***

A: We will refer you back to school first, but if that is not an option, you will need a court order to pursue your GED at the age of 16, a law from the Texas Education Agency.

### ***Can I bring my case worker with me to orientation?***

A: Yes.

### ***How long is orientation?***

A: It is scheduled for 1 hour but can sometimes take less time.

### **Contact:**

**Eligibility Specialist: (512) 748-5574, Goodwill Community Center: (512) 637-7100**



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