Workforce Development Area #7

Policy Letter #2-2021

Effective Date: March 10, 2021

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to communicate local policy regarding the use of stipends for state and federal funded youth programming.

Background: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA 20 CFR 681.640) and MN Department of Employment and Economic Development allows for the use of stipends for participation in activities such as work experience or classroom activities, including work readiness or employability skills training.

Policy/Procedure: Prior to setting up a work experience, youth that need additional skills to be successful in employment are referred to MVAC's Get Started Program.   The Get Started Program is a virtual four week program focused on preparing youth for the world of work. Get Started provides youth and young adults (16-24 years of age) training in communication skills, budgeting, health and wellness, and community exploration, which are fundamentals in being successful in life and employment. Youth learn about the importance of effective workplace communication, how to budget their money, the impacts of health and wellness on employment and local community resources that are available. Youth received a $50 stipend for each week of completed assignments, earning up to $200 over the four week course. Stipends are provided in accordance to state and federal funding requirements as outlined below:

Youth Fund	Allowable Expense	Budget Category	WF1 Activity
WIOA Youth	Yes	Direct – for non-training activities such as "Get Started" Training – for training activities such as Coursera	Work Readiness Activity - for non-training activities such as "Get Started" Non-credential Training - for training activities such as Coursera
MN Youth	Yes	Youth Wages	Work Readiness
Youth at Work	Yes	Youth Wages	Work Readiness
TANF Youth	Yes	Youth Wages	Work Readiness
CP3	Yes	Direct – for non-training activities such as "Get Started" Training – for training activities such as Coursera	Work Readiness Activity - for non-training activities such as "Get Started" Non-credential Training - for training activities such as Coursera