

**Waiver of the 75% Out-of-School Youth (OSY) expenditure rate on statewide workforce investment activities.**

Statutory and/or regulatory requirements to be waived

Language that requires the 75% OSY expenditure requirement be imposed on statewide workforce investment activities identified in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Section 129(a)(4)(A).

This request is for Program Year (PY) 2021 and PY 2022 funding allotments.

Actions undertaken to remove state or local barriers

There are no State or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the proposed waiver.

Goals and expected programmatic outcomes of waiver

The waiver will allow the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) the ability to focus State-level youth funds on the provision of services to In-School Youth (ISY) via targeted programs for those services, without being obligated to simultaneously issue additional OSY programs amounting to at least three times the expenditure proposed for ISY programs.

Alignment with USDOL policy priorities

This waiver will allow the State the flexibility to improve outcomes for ISY by developing State-level programs addressing specific needs. The identified need for OSY services has diminished and can be met through Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) youth program expenditures and, in the case of older OSY, Adult program funds.

Individuals impacted by the waiver

The waiver will directly impact ISY, who would otherwise not be served due to the 75% OSY funding requirement. The impact on OSY is minimal because the unmet services needs of the OSY population are currently low. Employment opportunities for OSY are plentiful as reflected in current low Unemployment Insurance (UI) rates and high hourly wages for entry level jobs.

Process for monitoring progress and the collection and reporting of outcomes related to the waiver

NYSDOL will monitor progress and ensure accountability for Federal funds in connection with this waiver by collecting and reviewing monthly expenditure, performance and other reports, through regular contact with the Employment and Training Regional Office liaisons, and through its monitoring and performance accountability system.

Notice to affected local boards

Should the waiver be granted, NYSDOL would issue an electronic notice that will be disseminated to the Workforce Development community in the State (including LWDB Directors and Chairs).