

**WIOAB 9-20**

**DATE:** April 1, 2021  
**TO:** All WIOA Providers  
**FROM:** Danilo Cabrera *Danilo Cabrera*  
Program Operations Manager  
**SUBJECT:** WIOA Measurable Skill Gains and FAQs

Our USDOL federal project officer (FPO) has requested Idaho achieve negotiated MSG performance level as soon as possible. To address USDOL's concerns about MSG attainment, career planners must go into IdahoWorks and complete eligible participants' MSGs before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

To address MSG reporting issues, career planners must go into IdahoWorks and review participants' responses to the question, "Does this service lead to a credential, employment, or measurable skills gain?"

If the service provided is on the MSG spreadsheet, the question's response must be YES. All other services must be NO. Please see the MSG spreadsheet on page two of this WIOAB for reference. The MSG spreadsheet may also be found in the WIOA Technical Assistance Guide or WIOAB 12-19 Change 1. Also included is a series of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and responses, as posed by career planners, which can be seen starting on page 3.

If you have any questions, please contact the WIOA/TAA mailbox.

<b>Adult and Dislocated Worker Services</b>	<b>Does this service lead to a credential, employment, or MSG? Yes or No?</b>	<b>Credential</b>	<b>Employment</b>	<b>MSG</b>
ABE or ESL in Combination with Training (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Non-Occupational Skills Training (12 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Occupational Skills Training (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
OJT - On the Job Training (24 A/DW)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
OJT – Registered Apprenticeship (24 A/DW)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Prerequisite Training (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Registered Apprenticeship - Classroom Training (RTI) (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Skill Upgrading (21 A/DW)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Entrepreneurial Training (21 A/DW)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Workforce Preparation Activities	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
<b>Youth Services</b>	<b>Does this service lead to a credential, employment, or MSG? Yes or No?</b>	<b>Credential</b>	<b>Employment</b>	<b>MSG</b>
ABE or ESL in Combination with Training (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Basic Skills-Youth (32 Y)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Non-Occupational Skills Training (12 A/DW, 41Y)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Occupational Skills Training (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Prerequisite Training (21 A/DW, 41Y)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Registered Apprenticeship - Classroom Training (RTI) (21 A/DW, 41 Y)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

## MSG/Service & Training Webinar FAQs (3/30/2021)

**Q1** - Participants enrolled for intensive job search, and we are helping them with resumes, interviewing skills, and job search. Would this be an MSG for Workforce Preparation?

**R1** - No. MSGs are only required for participants in education or training services/activities.

**Q2** - So there is No MSG for Job Search participants?

**R2** - No.

**Q3** - Do we need to try to go back and add services for PY20?

**R3** - No, we are not asking career planners to go back and add any additional services to participants' S & T plans before today's presentation. However, our priority for today is to have career planners go into all their PY20 participants' S&T plan and make sure the following questions were answered correctly-

*"Does this service lead to a credential, employment, or a measurable skills gain?"*

This addresses the system trigger in which a "Yes" answer places the participant in the MSG count regardless of whether the service may or may not be education or training related.

**Q4** - Do the dates of the case notes need to match the dates of the services?

**R4** - Yes. Ensure that they are both in sync. Having different dates for each of these would cause some concern when monitored or reviewed.

**Q5** - For a youth, can driver's license attainment count as non-occupational skills training?

**R5** - No. Although this is a significant achievement, this would not fall under the WIOA definition of education or training.

**Q6** - Are MSGs required for NDWGs?

**R6** - Yes. NDWGs must follow the performance levels that states have negotiated for their WIOA Title I Dislocated Worker program.

**Q7** - Can passing a CDL class count as an MSG?

**R7** - If someone takes a CDL class and passes the class, that will count as an MSG. You have to make sure, however, that this is

added to the participant's ISS and noted in IDWKs.

**Q8** - Would a mid-term evaluation on an OJT be considered an MSG?

**R8** - If the evaluation was positive then, yes, it would be considered as an MSG. However, OJT's for Adults or Dislocated Workers are the only service activity that can be considered open to MSGs.

**Q9** - Can we use the NDWG funding for an OJT?

**R9** - Yes, if it is appropriate and the activity meets the specific grant criteria (i.e. COVID NDWG).

**Q10** - If someone obtains their CDL and then adds additional endorsements (doubles/triples, hazmat, tankers, etc.), can we count these as additional skills gains.

**R10** - Yes, the endorsements can count as individual MSGs.

**Q11** - What is considered Supporting Documentation? Can it be verbal and put in case notes? Can it be a screen shot? Does it have to be from the training provider or can it be from the participant?

**R11** - Copies of documents which can confirm the achievement will be considered valid. Some educational institutions have online systems that allow students to review their grades by exams, assignments, etc. Screenshots of this online record are considered acceptable confirmation. A verbal account of the achievement is not acceptable.

**Q12** - With the mechanics of IDWKs and MSGs, for example, an OST service will lead to credential. If someone is taking a class and there are five exams in the class, are career planners then supposed to close and reopen the service to account for each of the tests to gain multiple MSGs under one service?

**R12** - MSGs are not related to a specific service. Career planners do not need to open/close/reopen a service to continue to add an MSG throughout a participant's enrollment.

**Q13** - When do I stop entering services so my participant will exit the program?

**R13** - If you have placed your Adult or DW in unsubsidized employment or completed their training plan in what WIOA set out to do for them and they are ready to exit, you no longer need to add a service for each interaction you have with them. By no longer providing or adding services, they will exit after 90 days and move into follow-up. If you do continue adding services (LE or WIOA) before the 90 days is up, their enrollment will remain open and they will likely not exit.

**Q14** - Will completing JS planning services for veterans be considered for an MSG?

**R14-** MSGs are only applicable for Title I (Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs. USDOL does not require that MSGs be applied to ES enrollments, including veterans.

**Q15** - Can you explain the following from the presentation?

- *GED (Skill progression)*
  - *Participants can get an MSG for each completed GED test*
    - *If a participant completes all five GED tests in a PY, they could achieve six MSG's in a PY*

What is the reference to six possible tests since there are only four sections to the GED? Are you TABE/ re-TABE in that number?

**R15** - Yes. We apologize for the confusion. This example assumed that there would be a TABE included in the total, along with the four GED component tests and the final certification – totaling a possibility of six MSGs in this scenario.

**Q16** - Will there be any modifications to IDWKs to allow for something similar to "Quick Service Entry" in ES in the WIOA feature of the MIS?

**R16** - We have requested that AJLA look into this and hope to hear back from them soon.