WIOA 101

A Brief Overview of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
WIOA 101

• **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**
  – *Signed into law July 2014*
  – *Most aspects took effect July 2015*
  – *Final regulations released August 2016*

• **Successor to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA, 1998)**
Timeline Leading to WIOA

2015 - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

1998 - Successor to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

1991 - National Literacy Act

1966 – Adult Education Act (in ESEA)

1965 – Economic Opportunity Act
The Basics

• **WIOA contains five titles:**
  
  – *Title I: Workforce Development Activities*
  
  – *Title II: Adult Education & Literacy*
  
  – *Title III: Amendments to the Wagner-Peyser Act*
  
  – *Title IV: Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*
  
  – *Title V: General Provisions*

*Most relevant to TESOL*
Title I: Workforce Development

• Administered by the Dept. of Labor through the Employment & Training Administration

  – Section of WIOA that is responsible for providing job training and employment services for unemployed and underemployed adults

  – Services are open to all adults over 18
Title I: Workforce Development Boards

- 3,000 One-Stop centers administered through state Workforce Development Boards, which provide local WIOA employment and training activities
- WDBs include the governor, business leaders, employers, state legislators and state officials
- WDBs are responsible for submitting Unified State Plans every 4 years
Title I: Performance Measures

• WIOA creates a single set of common measures for adults across all core programs

• Emphasis of evaluation is on the performance of the program, not the individual adult learner
Title I: Workforce Development

• Authorized Funding:
  – FY 2017: $902 Million
  – FY 2018: $922 Million
  – FY 2019: $943 Million
  – FY 2020: $963 Million

• Enacted Funding:
  – FY 2016: $815 Million
Title II: Adult Education & Literacy

- Commonly referred to as the Adult Education & Family Literacy Act (FEMLA)
  - Administered by the Dept. of Education and makes grants to states to improve basic skills including literacy
  - Targets out of school adults who are at or below the secondary education level or below and in need of English language training to improve their ability to gain employment
  - Title II is silent on citizenship requirements
Title II: Adult Education & Literacy

– Title II helps to create collaboration between the federal and state governments to provide educational services in four targeted areas:
  • Adult literacy for low skilled adults that leads to economic independence
  • Education for parents and family members to become fully supportive of their children’s education and development
  • Education toward the acquisition of secondary school diplomas and higher education credentials
  • Educational opportunities for English language learners aimed at improving literacy skills in English and creating an understanding of American civics
Title II: Funding

• Authorized Funding:
  – FY 2016: $622 Million
  – FY 2016: $635 Million
  – FY 2018: $649 Million
  – FY 2019: $664 Million
  – FY 2020: $678 Million

• Enacted Funding:
  – FY 2016: $595 Million
Title II: Funding

– 82% of Title II funding goes to award multi-year competitive grants to eligible adult education providers
  • LEAs, faith based organizations, nonprofits, institutions of higher education, private organizations, etc.

– Grantees must operate programs that provide direct services in adult education and literacy

– Grantees must spend 95% of their funding on direct services
English Language Civics

– EL Civics program in WIOA designed to help individuals participate in education, work and civic opportunities

– EL Civics activities are to include instruction in literacy, English language acquisition and instruction on the rights of citizenship and civic participation
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Discussion & Questions

Contact:
John Segota
jsegota@tesol.org
@JohnSegota

David Cutler
dcutler@tesol.org
@TESOLpolicyguy