

The **Indiana Department of Workforce Development's Youth Initiatives** goal is to assist low-income youth who face significant barriers to education and/or employment. This is accomplished by providing access to resources and support that help overcome those barriers and successfully transition the youth to self-sufficiency. Assessments cover skills, interests, needs and goals, and create a unique employment plan to connect the youth to the local economy, education opportunities and community services.

Some of these barriers may be lack of high school education, being in the juvenile or adult justice system, homelessness, pregnancy or parenthood, having a documented disability, or lack of fluency in the English language. DWD's Young Adult Services Program enables youth to overcome all of these barriers and more.

Program design based on:

- **Focusing on serving** youth most in need
- **Providing connections** and access to WorkOne Career Centers or American Job Centers, community-based organizations and educational institutions
- **Collaborating and leveraging resources** at the state and local level
- **Focusing on performance accountability and commitment** to improving the quality of services provided to youth
- **Meeting talent needs** of local businesses, especially in emerging and in-demand industries

BASIC eligibility requirements:

- Between ages of 16-24 AND
- Not attending school AND
- Meets at least one of the following:
 - School dropout or school attendance issues
 - Homeless, runaway, foster care or have a disability
 - Subject to juvenile or adult justice system
 - Pregnant or parenting
 - Low academic ability or English Language Learner

Young Adult Program Services include:

- Earning HS diploma or equivalency
- Alternative secondary school services, or dropout recovery services
- Paid/unpaid work experiences
- Occupational skills training
- Workforce preparation activities
- Leadership development
- Supportive "barrier busting" services
- Adult mentoring
- Guidance and counseling
- Financial literacy education
- Entrepreneurial skills training
- Labor market information
- Post-secondary education and training preparation
- Employment transition services

Access Points:

- WorkOne Career Centers
- Adult Education programs
- State agency partners
- Community-Based Organizations

Resources:

- IndianaCareerReady.com
- IndianaCareerConnect.com
- IndianaCareerExplorer.com
- Indiana INTERN.net
- Skills and Training related grants
- WorkIndiana short-term training



To find locations and connect with a Youth Career Coach, visit <https://www.indianacareerready.com/Home/Workone>.