



Mark Sanford  
Governor

**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joe E. Taylor, Jr.  
Secretary

STATE WIA INSTRUCTION NUMBER: 07-02

TO: Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs)  
SUBJECT: Statewide Referral Policy on Youth Aging Out of Foster Care  
ISSUANCE DATE: August 15, 2007  
EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately


**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this issuance is to transmit instructions for the development and implementation of the local area referral policy on youth aging out of foster care.

**BACKGROUND:** As you know, DOL's youth vision focuses upon serving the neediest youth, including those who are in foster care or are aging out of foster care. In order to systematically target this group for services in our statewide WIA system, the policy outlined below was developed. A workgroup comprised of local area administrators, State Youth Focus Team members and State workforce staff drafted the policy.

**POLICY:** When a youth in foster care enters the 11<sup>th</sup> grade or reaches the age of 17 (whichever occurs first), DSS staff will refer the youth to WIA to receive an introduction to the services available in the local one-stop and initial core services. It is expected that each local area one-stop system and DSS will develop a referral process to implement this policy. Once the local area one-stop system has developed its referral process, a narrative describing the process and/or a copy of the written policy and process is to be sent to the assigned Workforce Development Division Grants Manager.

**INSTRUCTION:** Each local workforce investment area, in collaboration with local DSS offices, is instructed to develop a referral process as outlined above and submit a narrative describing the process and/or a copy of the written policy and process to its assigned Grants Manager no later than October 31, 2007.

**INQUIRY:** Questions may be directed to Ms. Jessie C. Byrd at 803-737-2670 or [jbyrd@sccommerce.com](mailto:jbyrd@sccommerce.com).

  
Margaret Torrey  
Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development