

(A) (1) TO THE EXTENT THAT STATE FUNDS ARE MADE AVAILABLE UNDER SECTION 124(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE SECRETARY OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING MAY PROVIDE GRANTS TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCILS OR ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITIES OF THE SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS DESIGNATED UNDER THE FEDERAL ACT FOR THE OPERATION OF THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(2) GRANTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP THE FUTURE EMPLOYABILITY AND JOB SKILLS OF PARTICIPATING INDIVIDUALS.

(B) INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM MAY WORK 12 OR FEWER HOURS EACH WEEK, OVER A PERIOD OF 9 OR FEWER MONTHS IN ANY STATE FISCAL YEAR.

(C) IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST:

(1) BE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, AS DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL ACT;

(2) BE EITHER A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLED AND ATTENDING THE JUNIOR OR SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, OR A HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT 16 TO 21 YEARS OF AGE WHO HAS EITHER RETURNED TO AND IS ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL ON A FULL-TIME BASIS, OR HAS ENROLLED IN AND IS PRESENTLY PARTICIPATING IN AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM LEADING TO A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT; AND

(3) MEET AND MAINTAIN MINIMUM STATEWIDE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE STANDARDS TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION AND THE SECRETARY OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THESE MINIMUM STANDARDS SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE YOUTH COMPETENCIES ALREADY DEVELOPED IN THIS STATE. LOCAL PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCILS OR ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITIES ESTABLISHED UNDER THE FEDERAL ACT, ACTING JOINTLY WITH LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES, MAY ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE STANDARDS WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE STATEWIDE STANDARDS.

(D) IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM, AN EMPLOYER MUST BE EITHER A PRIVATE-FOR-PROFIT ENTERPRISE OR A PRIVATE-NONPROFIT ENTERPRISE, AND MUST PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATING YOUTH TO LEARN MARKETABLE SKILLS. ADEQUATE SUPERVISION SHALL BE REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND TRAINING OF THE PARTICIPATING YOUTH.

(E) CURRENTLY EMPLOYED WORKERS SHALL NOT BE DISPLACED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATING UNDER THE YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(F) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDS UNDER THIS SECTION, EACH PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MUST SUBMIT A PROGRAM PLAN, DEVELOPED JOINTLY WITH LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES, TO