Program Description: Under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, formula funds are provided to states and outlying areas, states in turn provide local workforce investment areas resources to deliver a comprehensive array of youth services that focus on assisting low-income youth with one or more barriers to employment prepare for post-secondary education and employment opportunities, attain educational and/or skills training credentials, and secure employment with career/promotional opportunities.

Performance Goals*:
- To increase the number of youth entering employment, post-secondary education, or advanced training;
- To increase the number of youth attaining a degree or certificate; and
- To increase literacy and numeracy gains.

Services: tutoring, alternative secondary school offerings, summer employment opportunities linked to academic and occupational learning, paid and unpaid work experiences, occupational skill training, leadership development opportunities, supportive services, mentoring, follow-up services, and comprehensive guidance and counseling.

Eligibility/Target Population: youth aged 14 through 21 who are low income, and have one or more of the following barriers**:**

- deficient in basic literacy skills;
- school dropout;
- homeless, runaway or foster child;
- pregnant or parenting;
- offender; or
- require additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment (including a youth with a disability).

Allotments: based on formula provisions including three factors: (1) the number of unemployed in areas of substantial unemployment; (2) the number of excess unemployed individuals; and (3) the number of economically disadvantaged youth.

WIA Youth Appropriation by Program Year
PY 2011 $825,913,862
PY 2010 $924,069,000
PY 2009 $924,069,000
PY 2009 Recovery Act $1,188,000,000

*These three measures are the Office of Management and Budget identified common performance measures for youth and lifelong learning programs.