

Aspire Updates
September 13, 2018

Barriers to Employment

As I mentioned at the Administrators Meeting, we need to do a better job of capturing the Barriers to Employment Participant Characteristics in order to show that our participants meet the intent of WIOA funds: *“to increase, for individuals in the United States, **particularly those individuals with barriers to employment**, access to and opportunities for the employment, education, training, and support services they need to succeed in the labor market.”*

**Participant Characteristics:
Under-reported?**

Barriers to Employment	Participants Reported	Percentage of Total Participants Reported
Displaced Homemakers	75	0.26%
English Language Learners, Low Literacy, Cultural Barriers	28,586	100%
Exhausting TANF within 2 years	4	0.10%
Ex-offenders	29	0.10%
Homeless Individuals/Runaway Youth	55	0.19%
Long-term Unemployed	24	0.08%
Low-income Individuals	0	0.00%
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers	2	0.01%
Individuals with Disabilities	201	0.70%
Single Parents	5,448	19.06%
Youth in Foster Care or Aged out of the System	3	0.01%

FY 18 was our first year of collecting the Barriers to Employment characteristics. As you can see from the slide, our data is under-reported. In order to report more accurately, we are changing our procedures for collecting this information. Participant characteristics will be self-reported by the student on the Student

Registration Form.

Many of you recently had orientations, so it’s ok to wait until your next orientation to begin using the [updated Student Registration form](#). By January 1, 2019, all programs must use the updated form and have students self-report barriers. Changes that were made to the Student Registration Form include:

- Disabilities will stay as question 6 but “optional” is removed. That’s where students will self-report a disability.
- For FY 19, “Low Income” will be collected from question 11 for our federal report. For FY 20, Low Income will be on the checklist for students to self-report and it will be added in ABLELink.
- The Barriers to Employment section at the bottom of page 2 of the registration form is highlighted for now just because this is new and I want to bring attention to it for

students to complete. It's in a crowded space right now as this is a temporary fix until we streamline the Student Registration Form in FY 20.

- At the request of several administrators, the Registered for OhioMeansJobs question is added to the Student Registration Form since many of you register students at orientation. It is also on the Exit form for those programs that choose to register students after orientation.
- The Barriers to Employment [definitions](#) page is located on the Aspire website > WIOA Resources.

Please contact your program manager with any questions about this new reporting requirement.

OhioMeansJobs Center Survey

As a partner in Ohio's workforce system, please provide feedback to ODJFS via this survey about the OhioMeansJobs centers.

From Paige Perigo, Employment Services Coordinator, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Office of Workforce Development:

The Office of Workforce Development created a partner self-assessment survey to collect feedback from the partners in the OhioMeansJobs centers. This data will assist Workforce Development Board (WDB) review teams in gathering crucial information for certifying the OhioMeansJobs system as required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) law and regulations.

Please distribute this anonymous survey to those staff and/or partner representatives as this survey relates to how partner programs operate within the OhioMeansJobs center and system. Partners are not required to identify the local workforce development area or partner agency, but we do ask that partners identify the county of the OhioMeansJobs center so that the information can be distributed to the appropriate WDB Director.

The survey is located at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8N7DV87> and will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. It is due November 1, 2018.

We appreciate your assistance and input in the OhioMeansJobs center certification process.

If you have any additional questions regarding this survey, please contact Paige at paige.perigo@jfs.ohio.gov or 614-466-9654.