

## ATTACHMENT A: DEFINITIONS OF YOUTH PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

**Additional Assistance - An individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment** - means any youth who:

- a. Lacks the employability skills to become or retain employment; or
- b. Lacks access to training opportunities due to geographic challenges; or
- c. Requires special accommodations for education or employment due to their disability, or
- d. Has cultural dissonance; or
- e. Is defined as a migrant youth; or
- f. Is currently attending an educational program; and
  - (1) Has previously dropped out of an educational program; or
  - (2) Has poor attendance patterns in an educational program during the last 12 calendar months; and
  - (3) Has below average grades, including students who are behind in credits for graduation requirements;
- g. Is not attending an educational program; and
  - (1) Has no vocational/employment goal; and
  - (2) Has a poor work history (including no work history), or has been fired from a job in the last six calendar months;
- h. Has completed full high school attendance; and
  - (1) Failed comprehensive high school graduation tests; and
  - (2) Was denied an Alaska high school diploma; and
  - (3) Requests and requires intensive tutoring and/or remedial education to prepare for and retake the comprehensive examinations or the General Education Development (GED) Diploma examination.

**Basic literacy skills deficient** - means an individual that has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test or a comparable score on a criterion-referenced test;

**Compulsory school age** – [Alaska Statute 14.30.010](#) defines compulsory between the age of seven and 16 years old, with various exceptions listed in the statute.

**Disability** – means an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual, has a record of such an impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

**English language learner** - is a person who is learning the English language in addition to his or her native language;

**Homeless, a runaway, or in foster care** - homeless means an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

- a. A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
- b. An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
- c. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

A runaway youth is an individual under 18 years of age who absents him or herself from home or place of legal residence without the permission of parents or legal guardian. A youth in foster care is an individual where there is a court order in existence removing the youth from the custody of the parent(s) and specifying a managing conservator exists and state or local government payments are made to the conservator;

**Juvenile or adult justice system (Offender)** - an individual who is or has been subject to any stage of the criminal justice process resulting from a record of arrest or conviction.

**Low Income:**

- (A) Receives, or is a member of a family which receives, cash payments under a Federal, State, or local income-based public assistance program;
- (B) Received an income, or is a member of a family that received a total family income, for the six-month period prior to registration (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments described in subparagraph (A) and old-age and survivors insurance benefits received under section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402)) that, in relation to family size does not exceed the higher of:
  - (I) the poverty line for an equivalent period; or
  - (II) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level for an equivalent period  
[LLSIL poverty guidelines](#);
- (C) Is a member of a household that receives (or has been determined within the 6-month period prior to registration for the program involved to be eligible to receive) Food Stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977

**Exception:** Disabled Individual – A disabled youth whose family does not meet the low income criteria is considered low income if the individual's own income, separate from the household's, meets the income eligibility guidelines.

**Pregnant, or parenting** - an individual who is the parent of a child or soon to be a parent;

**School dropout** – means an individual who is no longer attending any school and who has not received a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent;