


August 26, 2010

To: SCSEP Contractors of the Orange County
Workforce Investment Area

From: Andrew Munoz 
Community Investment Division Administrator/
Workforce Investment Board Executive Director

Subject: Durational Limit Policy
Information Notice No. 10-OC SCSEP-01

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this notice is to provide guidance regarding the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Durational Limit Policy for the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP).

REFERENCES:

2006 Older Americans Act Amendments (OAA)
SCSEP Data Collection Handbook, Revision 5 (8/23/07)
California Department of Aging (CDA) Program Memo PM 10-19(P)

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This policy is effective upon release.

BACKGROUND:

The 2006 amendments to the OAA impose that local projects are limited to an average duration of 27 months for all participants and that individual participants have a lifetime durational limit of 48 months. Both limits are calculated from July 1, 2007. These limits apply to any and all enrollments in SCSEP as well as to all funding streams.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

The following durational limits have been established:

1. AVERAGE PROJECT DURATION: 27 MONTHS

Grantees are required to manage their projects so as to maintain an average project duration of 27 months or fewer (see OAA Title V Sec. 502(b)(1)(C)). This is the average length of participation for all participants a grantee serves, not a limit for individuals; indeed, a project can still meet this requirement even if many of the individuals it serves are enrolled for longer than 27 months.



The average project duration is the sum of the number of months of enrollment of all of a project's participants, divided by the number of participants. This durational limit applies to each grantee as a whole, not to individual sub-grantees.

How is it measured?

The clock for this measurement started on July 1, 2007; participants' prior time in the project does not count. All participants who are currently active or who have been active in the preceding 9 quarters are counted. The 27 month durational limit will first apply on October 1, 2009.

Although waivers to raise the average project duration up to 36 months are permitted by statute (OAA Sec. 513(2)(d)), the OCWIB does not plan to request a waiver from the DOL.

2. INDIVIDUAL DURATIONAL LIMIT FOR PARTICIPANTS: 48 MONTHS

Individuals are only eligible to receive SCSEP services for a total of 48 months in their lifetime (OAA Title V Sec. 518(a)(3)). Grantees must terminate any participant who reaches the 48 month durational limit, unless a waiver is in place. NOTE: Participants are not automatically entitled to remain in the program for 48 months. Eligibility and other programmatic considerations, such as IEPs, apply.

How is it measured?

The clock for this measurement started on July 1, 2007, for all participants; participants' prior time in the program does not count toward the limit. This limit applies to any and all enrollments in SCSEP, whether or not consecutive, with any grantee or sub-grantee. Participation in the regular funded program as well as the Recovery Act (ARRA) and Appropriations Act (AA) funded programs counts towards this durational limit. The earliest date at which a participant can reach the 48 month limit is July 1, 2011.

Although waivers to increase the 48 month limit are permitted by statute, (OAA Sec. 518(1)(b)), the OCWIB does not plan to request a waiver from the DOL.

TRACKING DURATIONS IN SPARQ

SPARQ will report average project and individual participant time limits, which will be reflected in the QPR and management reports. If properly entered into SPARQ, approved leaves of absence do not count toward the aggregate grantee limit.

ACTION:

1. Distribute this policy to appropriate staff.
2. Provide notification, in writing, to all SCSEP participants and Host Agencies.
3. Develop a transitional plan for all participants who will be leaving the program. The plan shall be reflected in the IEP and should be implemented at least six (6) months prior to exit date.

INQUIRIES:

If you have any questions please contact Ron Milone at 714-834-7121 ron.milone@occr.ocgov.com or Jaclyn Canzone at 714-834-6872 jaclyn.canzone@occr.ocgov.com.

ATTACHMENTS:

None