

# **SC Works Midlands Center**

## **SC Works Center Orientation**

*Central Midlands Council of Governments' WIOA funded activities affords equal opportunity to the public. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request. Speech or hearing-impaired individuals may use TTY Relay Service by dialing 711.*

# **Midlands Workforce System**

The slides that follow provide you with information about the services available through the SC Works Center.

# **What is the SC Works Center?**

The Centers are made up of a partnership of organizations with the shared mission to assist job seekers in obtaining self-sustaining employment in Fairfield, Lexington, and Richland counties.

# What are the Goals of The SC Works Center?

- Assist clients in gaining new employment, focusing on increased retention, wages and skills in in-demand sectors.
- Improve global competitiveness of our Area's Workforce by identifying and closing skills gaps with industry specific training.

# How Can I Benefit from the Center?

- Veteran- Priority Services
- Search and apply for jobs
- Attend classes to increase your skills
- Practice interviewing with hiring managers
- Explore career options through on-line research and workshops
- Find programs to assist with funding your educational goals
- Career Assessments

# Who is Located in the Center?

- Workforce partners are available both on-site and by referral
- Workforce partner services range from job assistance for target populations to training assistance
- Visit our website for a complete list of partners

# What free learning opportunities do you offer?

- Workshops: job searching, resume development, interviewing, career exploration, money management and more
- Typing tests
- Online courseware/tutorials

See our monthly calendar on the website for an up-to-date list

# Midlands SC Works Center

## Locations

- ***Richland***  
700 Taylor Street Columbia
- ***Lexington***  
671 Main Street West Columbia
- ***Fairfield***  
96 US Hwy. 321 Bypass S. Winnsboro



# When are the Centers open?

- ***Richland***

Monday – Friday 8 am – 5:00 pm

- ***Lexington***

Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm

- ***Fairfield***

Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm

# What happened to the WIA Program?

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, or WIOA, was implemented July 1, 2015. It replaced the [Workforce Investment Act of 1998](#), (WIA) on that day.

# What is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act?

The **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**(WIOA) is a federal law that mandates the SC Works Centers. WIOA provides policy guidelines and funds for a group of federal programs focused on increasing the skills and employability readiness within the community.

# What's New with the WIOA Program?

- Training services have changed. There is an increased focus on work-based learning (On-the-Job Training, Internships, and Apprenticeship).
- Classroom training is focused on career sectors and must be for in-demand occupations.

# What services are available from WIOA?

- Career Services

Basic – available to everyone through the Resource Room

Individualized – requires eligibility determination and priority of service

- Training Services – focused on work-based learning and selected career sectors

# What are examples of Basic Career Services?

Some of the services available include:

- Labor Market Information – job listings, skill requirements, expected pay, etc.
- Information about Partner Services
- Information about Unemployment Insurance

# **What are examples of Individualized Career Services?**

Some of the services available include:

- Career assessments
- Development of an employment plan
- Career guidance and planning
- Access to work-based learning opportunities

# **How do I Access Individualized Career Services?**

If you want to participate in individualized services you must go through a eligibility determination and initial assessment. Then, you will be considered for enrollment into one of three programs (Dislocated Worker, Adult, and Youth).



# What else should I know about Individualized Career Services?

No one is guaranteed to participate in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act beyond Basic Career Services.

Individualized Career Services are not an entitlement.

# **What is Eligibility Determination?**

A determination of eligibility for the WIOA program is required by law. This generally takes no more than 1 hour to complete. To more quickly expedite this process, please make sure to bring all of the documentation listed.

# **What else do I need to know about Eligibility Determination?**

- If you are determined eligible for WIOA then you move on to initial assessment (you'll learn more about next steps on the following slides)
- If you are not WIOA - eligible, you may be referred to other partner services available in the SC Works Midlands system.

# **Are you Registered for the Draft?**

All males born after 1965 are required to register with Selective Service between the ages of 18 – 25. This is a eligibility criteria.

# What if I'm Not Registered for the Draft?

- Failure to register can greatly interfere with your ability to receive a number of federal & some state benefits in 37 different states.
- Don't be left out! Register today! It only takes a few minutes. Go to [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).

# What are the three WIOA programs?

- Dislocated Worker
- Adult
- Youth
- The Midlands SC Works Centers serve residents in Fairfield, Lexington and Richland Counties in these three categories.

# **Who is a WIOA Eligible Dislocated Worker?**

- Midlands residents who are at least 18 years of age or older and have been laid off from their previous employer due to no fault of their own.

# Who is a WIOA Eligible Adult?

- Midlands residents who are at least 18 years of age and not determined to be “self-sufficient” as defined by a federal standard.
- If determined eligible, Adults receive WIOA services based on the priority of service that is in effect at the time.



# Who are WIOA Eligible Youth?

- **Out-of-School**: 16 to 24 years old and not attending school and has one or more “barriers” to employment
- **In-School**: 14 to 21 and must be attending school, low income, and has one or more “barriers” to employment

# Youth Eligibility Barriers

- These “barriers” to employment may include a high school dropout, in the adult or juvenile justice system, homeless, runaway or aged out of foster care, is pregnant or parenting, disabled.
- Other circumstances include college graduate who is low-income and reads or computes mathematics below the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level.

# Initial Assessment

- After eligibility determination you can expect to speak **one-on-one** with a Workforce Consultant who is trained to assist you.

# Enrollment/Referral

Being determined eligible does not guarantee enrollment into WIOA services and **the programs of WIOA may not be a good fit for everyone.**

If this is the case you may be referred to other partner services that best fit your needs.

# What if I Only Want Training Services?

The following three criteria will need to be considered to determine if training is appropriate.

- The participant is **unlikely or unable** to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment through career services alone.

# Training Services Continued...

- The participant is **in need** of training services to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment, through career services alone.
- The participant has the skills and qualifications to successfully participate in the selected program of training services.

# **When do I Complete My Services?**

After completion of planned goals, you will transition into follow-up services. Follow-up will help you to maintain employment and provide you with additional job search assistance if needed.

# What Do We Expect From You?

- Maintain satisfactory progress in reaching the goals in your established plan
- Keep in contact with your Workforce Consultant
- Keep your contact information up to date
- Do not miss appointments
- Let us know when you find work



# **What is The Bottom Line?**

WIOA is not an entitlement program and services are provided upon individual need and the availability of funds. WIOA's success is driven by the success of its customers.

# Equal Opportunity

We are an equal opportunity employer/program. We provide auxiliary aids and services upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sex stereotyping, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, political affiliation or belief, or (against any beneficiary, applicant, or participant in programs financially assisted under Title I of WIOA) on the basis of the individual's citizenship status or participation in any WIOA Title I financially assisted program, or activity is prohibited.

Under the nondiscrimination and EO provisions of WIOA, you have the right to file a programmatic or discrimination complaint. For more information, please visit our Legal page at <https://www.scworksmidlands.org/legal> .

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**Now that you have completed the Orientation, please complete the contact form [here](#) . A member of our team will contact you soon to schedule a visit at a Midlands SC Works Center to speak to a WIOA Staff representative.**