

# What is WIOA?

As one of several financial aid options offered to students, we have seen many take advantage of WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) funding to reinvent themselves in the workforce.

## **What is WIOA?**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was enacted July 2014 to replace the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The federal grant covers training expenses for individuals who have been laid off or whose household income is at or below the federal poverty level. It's designed to benefit job seekers, laid-off workers, older youth, incumbent workers, new entrants to the workforce, veterans, persons with disabilities and employers.

## **How does WIOA work?**

WIOA seeks to increase employment, retention and earnings of their participants. Each participant is directed toward in-demand occupations, and we will train individuals for those industries.

## **What type of training does WIOA fund?**

WIOA funds high-demand occupations such as healthcare, technology, finance and manufacturing. We offer WIOA funding for professional certificate programs to provide students relevant training to re-enter the workforce.

## **What are the qualifications for WIOA funding?**

General requirements for participation in the WIOA program include:

- Being unemployed
- Obtaining U.S. citizenship or lawful, permanent residency
- Having registered for selective service (if male)

### **Other factors may include:**

- Being a veteran
- Lower-level income status

## **How do I become a participant in WIOA training?**

For more information or to apply for a WIOA grant, contact the Business & Career Solutions Center for the parish in which you reside. You can find a list of the BCSCs and contact information at [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net) and at [www.wdb83.com](http://www.wdb83.com).

Since the application process takes several weeks, we recommend you don't delay in getting started.