

New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board Policy on Job Search Exemption

In an effort to work within the Virginia Employment Commission's (VEC) policies concerning unemployment compensation and to assist WIA Adult and Dislocated Workers who are currently receiving Unemployment Compensation, program operators will provide information to the VEC concerning any training that is taking place under Section 134 of the Workforce Investment Act.

The information concerning WIA training under Section 134 of the Workforce Investment Act is to be used to assist the Virginia Employment Commission in determining if a participant is complying with the Unemployment Compensation Benefit Code section 60.2-613 concerning job search exemption while in approved WIA training. The providing of this information in no way exempts WIA participants from required job search to receive unemployment compensation, that decision still requires the approval of the Virginia Employment Commission.

In addition, the providing of training information to the VEC concerning job search exemption will have no affect on current New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board policy concerning WIA job search requirements. The Board policy still stands that participants that are attending training that will last one-month or less (regardless of full-time or part-time status) must remain in job search during the duration of training. Those participants that are in full-time training (as indicated by the training provider) for a period of three or more months are not required to conduct a job search until their training is within one month of completion. At such time, the participant must be put back into job search and reregistered with the Virginia Employment Commission. As for the participants that are in training that last between one to three months or in training that lasts more than three months but is considered part-time training, it is up to the discretion of the program operator whether job search should continue during training. Program operators should base their decision on: hours spent in training both in and out of the classroom, whether the training can be completed if a participant starts a new job, etc.