REPUBLIC OF PALAU WORKFORCE INVESTMENT POLICY NO. 007-08-2000

Effective Date: July 01, 2000

TO: State Workforce Investment Board Members

Executive Committee

FROM: Ms. Josephine Ulengchong

WIA Office Executive Director

SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY FOR YOUTH SERVICES

An eligible youth is defined, under WIA sec. 101 (13), as an individual who:

(a) Is age 14 through 21;

- (b) Is a low income individual, as defined in WI sec. 101 (25); and
- (c) Is within one or more of the following categories:
 - (1) Deficient in basic literacy skills;
 - (2) School dropout;
 - (3) Homeless, runaway, or foster child;
 - (4) Pregnant or parenting;
 - (5) Offender; or
 - (6) Is an individual (including a youth with a disability) who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment. (WIA sec. 101 (13).)

Deficient in basic literacy skills is hereby defined as someone who:

- (1) Computes or solves problems, reads, writes, or speaks English at or below the 8th grade level on a generally accepted standardized test or a comparable score on a criterion-referenced test; or
- (2) Is unable to compute or solve problems, read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family or in society.

Definitions and eligibility documentation requirements regarding the "require additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment" in this instance means an individual whose age is not appropriate to the current grade level or is a disabled individual including learning disability.

Youth participants must all be registered. Equal opportunity data must be collected during the registration process on any individual who has submitted personal information in response to a request by the WIA staff for such information.

Up to five percent of youth participants served by youth programs may be individuals who do not meet the income criterion for eligible youth, provided that they are within one or more of the following categories:

- (a) School dropout;
- (b) Basic skills deficient;
- (c) Are one or more grade levels below the grade level appropriate to the individual's age;
- (d) Pregnant or parenting;
- (e) Possess one or more disabilities, including learning disabilities;
- (f) Homes or runaway;
- (g) Offender; or
- (h) Face serious barriers to employment as defined by the WIA State policy.

A disabled youth whose family does not meet the income eligibility criteria may be considered a low-income individual if the youth's own income meets the income criteria established in WIA State policy.

An out-of-school youth (WIA sec. 101 (33) is an individual who:

- (a) Is an eligible youth who is a school dropout; or
- (b) Is an eligible youth who has either graduated from high school or holds a GED, but is basic skills deficient, unemployed, or underemployed.

A school dropout is defined as an individual who is no longer attending any school and who has not received a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent. A youth's dropout status is determined at the time of registration. A youth attending an alternative school at the time of registration is not a dropout. An individual who is out-of-school at the time of registration and subsequently placed in an alternative school, may be considered an out-of-school youth for the purpose of 30 percent expenditure requirement for out-of-school youth. (WIA sec. 101 (39).)