

### **Appendix 3: Community Services Block Grant**

**Below is information about the employment and training activities carried out under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.) that is included in the WIOA Combined State Plan. The complete CSBG State Plan is submitted directly to the Federal agency that administers that program and is collected under OMB Control Number: 0970-0382.**

**Where CSBG is included in the Combined State Plan, the state CSBG lead agency (as designated by the chief executive of the state under the requirements of section 676(a) of the CSBG Act (42 U.S.C. 9908(a)) will coordinate plans for employment and training activities under CSBG as part of a larger antipoverty and workforce development strategy.**

**As part of the Combined State Plan, the state CSBG lead agency must:**

- (a) Describe how the state and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities through statewide and local WIOA workforce development systems; and may**
- (b) Provide examples of innovative employment and training programs and activities conducted by eligible entities or other neighborhood-based organizations as part of a community antipoverty strategy.**

The mission and responsibilities of the state agency that serves as the CSBG lead agency is to provide resources and foster partnerships in low-income communities that will enable low-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency, enhance family stability and revitalize their community. Within the Louisiana Workforce Commission's Office of Workforce Development, the Community Services Block Grant Unit's mission and responsibilities are to be the lead poverty reduction agency in the state, administer the Community Services Block Grant funds, provide guidance to Community Action Agencies, ensure that resources are utilized to help local public and private nonprofit agencies assist low-income individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency, ensure that Community Services Block Grant funds are expended in accordance with applicable rules and regulations, ensure that Community Services Block Grant services are accessible through and coordinated with the One-Stop Career Centers as specified in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and encourage innovative initiatives to combat the effects of poverty throughout Louisiana.

The CSBG Act, Sec. 676(b)(5) requires eligible entities to coordinate the provision of employment and training activities through statewide and local workforce investment systems under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which was signed into law on July 22, 2014, supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA).

Agencies align services to ensure that customers receive the best available employment and training services, as well as employment supports to achieve their employment and self-sufficiency goals. As partners in the workforce system continuum of services, these services focus on vulnerable populations and other least job-ready customers by focusing on reduction of the barriers to employment.