



**POST-SCHOOL OUTCOMES
DATA COLLECTION
PROCESS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Demystifying the PSO Process



COLORADO
Department of Education

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Other Postsecondary Education or Training?

- Other postsecondary education or training means youth have been enrolled on a full or part-time basis for at least 1 complete term at any time in the year since leaving high school in an education or training program (e.g., Job Corps, adult education, workforce development program, vocational technical school which is less than a two-year program).

How do we count a former student who is or has been enrolled in a 2 or 4-year community college, college, or university in any of the following types of classes: 1) Remedial classes; 2) Non-credit classes; and 3) Public Speaking, Art, or basic skills classes?

- All would be counted as higher education because they are at a 2- or 4-year college or university.

In the definition of “enrolled in other postsecondary education or training” is the list “e.g., (e.g., Job Corps, adult education, workforce development program, vocational technical school which is less than a two-year program) an exhaustive list or can a State include other types of programs such as rehabilitation services and programs?

- This is not an exhaustive list; States may include other programs such as rehabilitation services and other programs.

In both “higher education” and “other postsecondary education or training,” the definition includes “for at least one complete term.” Does “for at least one complete term” mean any credit bearing term no matter the duration (e.g., summer, between semesters “inter-terms,” online courses, credit bearing independent study, etc.)?

- Enrollment should be continuous for one complete term, including semester, quarter, summer, between semester “inter-terms,” online course, or credit bearing independent study. It is the responsibility of the State to define the “term.”

Some adult education programs and workforce development programs have open enrollment or exit dates, others have short timeframes (e.g., month-long resume writing class or a 10-week welding class). Would completion of these examples be counted as “one complete term” and included as “enrolled in other postsecondary education and training?”

- Yes, completion of short-term education and training programs would be considered “enrolled in other postsecondary education and training.”

Would programs such as a mission, Peace Corps, Vista, or AmeriCorps be considered “other postsecondary education or training?” If so, how would “for at least one complete term” be defined?

- These examples should be treated as “other postsecondary education or training.” Any formal program (e.g., a program that contains a formal application/approval process),

that is at least in part about skill-building and experience-building, qualify as "other post-secondary or training." This could include Peace Corps, Vista, AmeriCorps programs, and others.

How should stay at home parents be counted?

- Stay at home parents would be counted as "not engaged" for the SPP/APR. However, a State may choose to collect these data and report such a category if stakeholders deem this information useful for system or program improvement.

In the definition for both "competitive employment" and "some other employment" what does "at least 90 days at any time in the year since leaving high school" mean?

- Either ninety (90) cumulative days or three months of continuous work at an average of 20 hours per week.

In the definition of "competitive employment" does "20 hours a week" mean a minimum of 20 hours a week or an average of 20 hours a week over time? For example, if a person worked 15 hours one week, and 25 the next, would that count as "20 hours a week?"

- "20 hours a week" includes:
 - At least 20 hours a week for 90 cumulative days;
 - 20 hours or more a week for 90 cumulative days;
 - An average of 20 hours a week for 90 cumulative days.

"Some other employment" in measure C means youth have worked for pay or been self-employed for a period of at least 90 days at any time in the year since leaving high school. Are number of hours per week and the earnings per hour considered?

- For "some other employment" hours and wages are not considered. However, the "other employment" needs to be "for a period of at least 90 days at any time in the year since leaving high school."

How is "supported" employment counted?

- If "supported" employment meets the criteria for "competitive employment" (e.g., 90 cumulative days, averaging 20 hours per week, and is at or above minimum wage) then it can be counted as "competitive employment." If "supported" employment does not meet the criteria, it is counted as "some other employment."

How is "self-employment" counted?

- If "self-employment" meets the criteria for "competitive employment" (e.g., 90 cumulative days, averaging 20 hours per week, and is at or above minimum wage) then it can be counted as "competitive employment." If "self-employment" employment does not meet the criteria, it is counted as "some other employment."

If a youth meets all the criteria of "competitive employment" (i.e., community setting, above minimum wage, 90 cumulative days) except they are working 16 hours per week, is that "some other employment?"

- “Yes, this is “some other employment,” because the youth is working 16 hours per week rather than 20 hours per week and thus not meeting the definition of “competitive employment.”

Under "some other employment," "family business" is listed, and as examples, "store" and "catering" are provided. If the youth is working in these settings and meets all the other criteria of "competitively employed," could he or she be counted under "competitive employment" instead of "some other employment?"

- Yes, if youth work in a family business and meet all of the requirements of being competitively employed, the individual would be counted under competitive employment. However, if the youth works for "room and board," it would not count as competitive employment.

For clarification or to have further questions answered, please reach out to any of the contacts below:

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Find further information, guidance and resources at:

- [Secondary Transition: Special Education Services for Youth Ages 15-21](#)
- [Indicator 14 - Post-School Outcomes](#)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) fully inform Administrative Units of Part B requirements and monitor the implementation of these requirements, with an emphasis on ensuring that all IDEA-eligible children in Colorado receive a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Pursuant to its responsibility for general supervision, the CDE provides this guidance to support Administrative Units in satisfying their obligations under the IDEA. Administrative Units are encouraged to review their policies and procedures for alignment with this guidance and make changes, as needed. This guidance is not binding and should not be construed as legal advice. For legal advice, Administrative Units should consult their legal counsel