

# The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Investments in Youth Work Experiences

## Case Study Summary on Using Evidence for Improvement



### THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) DECREASED YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCES

Starting in 1998, WIA inadvertently led to reduced investments in youth work experiences by increasing other requirements on local workforce boards.



### SUPPORTED BY THESE FINDINGS, CURRENT LAW SPECIFICALLY FUNDS YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCES

Therefore, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 included a youth work experience minimum expenditure requirement for local workforce boards that led to increases in funding for youth work experiences.

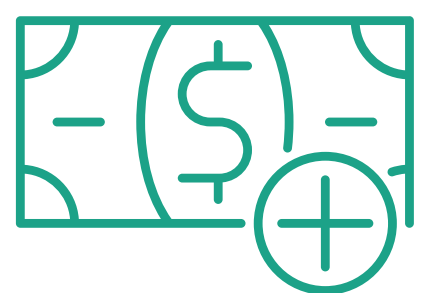
### RESEARCH DEMONSTRATED THAT YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCES INCREASE WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT

A broad range of studies starting in the 1970s show that youth work experiences lead to increases in wages and employment.

The federal government was already funding youth employment programs through Job Corps and expanded funding for employment experiences in the 1980s with the Job Training Partnership Act.

### THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) OF 2009 RE- INVESTED IN YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCES WITH POSITIVE RESULTS

ARRA funded youth summer work experiences, which successfully increased participants' work readiness skills and demonstrated that youth gained more responsibility and autonomy through longer work experiences.



Read the full case study here:

<https://forumfyi.org/knowledge-center/wioa-case-study/>