YouthBuild – Site Selection Questionnaire

INTRODUCTION

MDRC and its research partners Mathematica Policy Research (Mathematica) and Social Policy Research Associates are conducting an evaluation of the YouthBuild program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Currently, we are gathering some preliminary information about YouthBuild programs and would like to ask you a few questions about your specific program. The information that you provide will be used to help select a range of programs for the full evaluation.

We ask that your program director take a few minutes to fill out this questionnaire to help us better understand your program. The survey questions should take approximately ten minutes to answer. This study will help us better understand how the YouthBuild program affects participants' post-program employment and education outcomes. We also hope to better understand how the values and goals of YouthBuild are implemented in programs around the country. The reports prepared from this questionnaire will summarize findings across all YouthBuild sites and individual forms will not be available to anyone outside the study team, except as required by law. Please see the last page of this survey for more detailed information.

Your participation in the YouthBuild evaluation will greatly contribute to the national debate about policies and practices designed to improve the well-being of disadvantaged youth. If you have any questions as you complete this questionnaire, please contact Lisa Schwartz at Mathematica Policy Research at 1-609-945-3386 or LSchwartz@mathematica-mpr.com.

First, we would like to know some basic information about the size and configuration of your YouthBuild program.

1. **How many participants are <u>currently enrolled</u> in your program?** *(By **enroll**, we mean individuals who complete MTO, if your program has it, and satisfy all other requirements in order to start your program.)*

   |___|___|___| NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

   1 ☐ This is our first year running a YouthBuild program and we have yet to enroll any youth.

   2 ☐ We are not a new program but have not enrolled youth yet this year.

2. **How many applicants do you expect will apply to your program between April 2011 and March 2012?** *(By **apply**, we mean youth who try to enroll in the program but who have not yet been determined to be eligible for the program.)*

   |___|___|___| NUMBER OF APPLICANTS

   1 ☐ We do not expect to receive any applications during this time.

3a. **Do applicants under the age of 18 have to provide written assent to participate in the program?**

   1 ☐ Yes

   0 ☐ No

   2 ☐ We do not serve youth under the age of 1 ⟶ **SKIP TO Q.4**

3b. *(IF Q.3a=YES)* **How do you obtain consent from a parent or guardian for applicants under the age of 18 to participate in the program?**

MARK ALL THAT APPLY

₁☐ Written consent form

₂☐ Verbal consent by telephone

₃☐ Electronic consent via email or text

₄☐ We do not obtain consent

₅☐ Other *(Specify)*

_____

4. Does your program have a Mental Toughness Orientation (MTO)?

₁☐ Yes

₀☐ No —> **SKIP TO Q.8**

5. *(IF Q.4=YES)* **How long is your MTO, in days?**

|___|___|___| NUMBER OF DAYS

6. *(IF Q.4=YES)* **On average, how many hours per day do candidates spend in MTO?**

₁☐ Less than 2 hours a day

₂☐ Between 2 and 4 hours a day

₃☐ Between 4 and 6 hours a day

₄☐ Between 6 and 8 hours a day

₅☐ More than 8 hours a day

7. *(IF Q.4=YES)* **Of the individuals who apply to your program, how many do you typically invite to MTO?**

|___|___|___| NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS

8. Approximately how many individuals do you plan to enroll in your program between April 2011 and March 2012? *(By **enroll**, we mean individuals who complete MTO, if your program has it, and satisfy all other requirements in order to start your program.)*

|___|___|___| NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

9. What is the maximum number of individuals that could be enrolled into your program between April 2011 and March 2012?

|___|___|___| MAXIMUM NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS

10. **How many cohorts, or groups, do you expect to enroll into your program between April 2011 and March 2012?**

- 1 ☐ One cohort
- 2 ☐ Two cohorts
- 3 ☐ More than two cohorts
- 4 ☐ We admit participants on a rolling basis

11. **During which months of the year do you expect applicants to enroll in your program?** (*By **enroll**, we mean applicants who complete MTO, if you have it, and satisfy all other requirements in order to start your program.*)

MARK ALL THAT APPLY
- 1 ☐ April 2011
- 2 ☐ May 2011
- 3 ☐ June 2011
- 4 ☐ July 2011
- 5 ☐ August 2011
- 6 ☐ September 2011
- 7 ☐ October 2011
- 8 ☐ November 2011
- 9 ☐ December 2011
- 10 ☐ January 2012
- 11 ☐ February 2012
- 12 ☐ March 2012

12. **Once participants have completed MTO, on average, how long does your YouthBuild program last?**

- 1 ☐ Less than 6 months
- 2 ☐ 6-12 months
- 3 ☐ 13-18 months
- 4 ☐ More than 18 months

These next questions are about the worksites you use for the construction component of the YouthBuild program. If your program uses more than one worksite, please answer these questions based on your PRIMARY worksite.

13. **Does your program own its worksite(s)?**

- 1 ☐ Yes → **SKIP TO Q.15**
- 0 ☐ No

14. *(IF Q.13=NO)* **Who owns your (primary) worksite?**

_____

15. **Do you manage the worksite(s)?**

1 ☐ Yes ➔ **SKIP TO Q.17a**

0 ☐ No

16. *(IF Q.15=NO)* **Who manages your (primary) worksite?**

_____

17a. **How long has your YouthBuild program been in operation?**

1 ☐ Less than 1 year

2 ☐ 1-3 years

3 ☐ 4-5 years

4 ☐ 6-10 years

5 ☐ More than 10 years

17b. **How long has your program director worked at this YouthBuild site?**

1 ☐ Less than 1 year

2 ☐ 1-3 years

3 ☐ 4-5 years

4 ☐ 6-10 years

5 ☐ More than 10 years

18. **Which of the following best describes the organizational structure of your program?**

MARK ONE ONLY

1 ☐ Independent organization

2 ☐ Part of larger group or agency

3 ☐ Part of a charter school

4 ☐ Stand-alone charter school

5 ☐ Connected with One-Stop

6 ☐ Connected with AmeriCorps

7 ☐ Other *(Specify)*

_____

We're almost done. This last question is about the process that your program uses when it participates in research studies.

19. **Does your program use an Institutional Review Board?**

1 ☐ Yes

0 ☐ No

Thank you for taking the time to answer our questions. We appreciate your willingness to help us test this questionnaire. The evaluation of the YouthBuild program will be conducted over the next few years and will include a more comprehensive survey of all DOL-funded grantees. In addition, a select number of grantees will be randomly selected to participate in a portion of the study that is designed to measure the impact of YouthBuild on participants' outcomes. If your site is randomly selected for that portion of the study, we will contact you in the near future. Thank you again for your time!