

ESD WorkFirst Employment Services Forums – Key Questions

3 Forums were held during July in Everett, Moses Lake and Tumwater.

WorkFirst supervisors will need to schedule a WorkFirst Staff meeting to work through each of the following questions prior to your scheduled forum. Please collect the information shared at your meetings to bring with you to the forum. The information will be shared and collected.

Thank you,

ESD WorkFirst Services -

1. How would you define 'self-sufficiency' for the parents we are working with? If self-sufficiency is the goal for WorkFirst parents, what should our role be? What would that look like?
2. In the past we have focused on serving parents who are 'job ready'. If we needed to tighten the eligibility criteria for our WorkFirst services to focus more on helping parents become self-sufficient, would that change our definition of 'job ready'? If so, what would that look like?
3. What should our role be in helping parents build career plans or ladders that connect them to skill development and better job opportunities? How would we need to shift the way we provide services today to achieve that?
4. Based on our current employment services model -
 - a. *What services would we want to continue providing?*
 - b. *What services would we stop providing?*
 - c. *What would we want to provide that is new or different?*

BIG Picture WorkFirst -

1. Regarding the overall WorkFirst Program, what has worked well and what has not in helping parents go to work and get off of TANF?
2. What should the role of Local Planning Partnerships be in the re-design of WorkFirst?
3. What question(s) do we need to address as a part of the overall WorkFirst Re-Design effort?