

Department of Economic Security

Statement of Need and Reasonableness for Proposed Amendments
to Rule Governing the Minnesota Youth Employment Act

The Minnesota Department of Economic Security is proposing certain changes to the Summer Youth Employment Rule (8 MCAR s 4.0010) to remove restrictions which prevent the enrollment of certain program eligible applicants; and which prevent the full utilization of available resources.

The first proposed change clarifies the criteria for participation in the Regular Program (Section E (1)), and the Postsecondary Program (Section E (2)). The clarified criteria of economically disadvantaged is more precise and definitive than the current poverty guideline and further conforms with the Federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. This will result in more efficient and uniform administration of the Act by program operators.

The second proposed change will allow certification of all high school graduates to the postsecondary part of the program (Section E (2)). The current rule specifies certification for the postsecondary portion of the program of individuals who are at least 18 years of age and who are certified by the department as enrolled or intending to enroll in a postsecondary institution. The proposed change adds to that definition "or a high school graduate"; and will allow high school graduates under 18 years of age who are intending to enroll in a postsecondary educational institution to participate in the postsecondary part of the program.

The third proposed change will add procedures for the reallocation of funds. The addition (part G.3) will allow the department to shift funds from one CETA prime sponsor to another during the course of the program with the mutual consent of both CETA prime sponsors. This proposed addition will allow more efficient use of funds appropriated under the Act and result in an increased number of youth obtaining employment.