

877—7.15(84A,PL105-220) Individual training accounts. The individual training account (ITA) is established on behalf of a participant by the intensive service provider. ITA is the mechanism through which adults and dislocated workers shall purchase training services from eligible training providers. Payment for supportive services and related needs is not allowable under the ITAs.

7.15(1) Adult and dislocated worker service providers must provide participants the opportunity to select an eligible training provider, maximizing participant choice yet also allowing consultation from the participant's case manager. Unless the program has exhausted funding or has insufficient funds to cover the estimated cost of the program, the service provider must refer the individual to the selected training provider. Since funds are limited, priority shall be given to recipients of public assistance and other low-income individuals.

7.15(2) Participants whose application for a Pell Grant is pending may receive training services; however, an agreement must be in place between the participant and the training provider. In the event the Pell Grant is awarded, funds shall be released to reimburse the program and not the participant.

7.15(3) Payments from ITAs may be made in a variety of ways including credit vouchers, electronic transfer of funds through financial institutions, purchase orders, credit/debit cards or other appropriate methods. How funds will be transferred within a region, within the state and outside the state shall be a local decision as described by the regional workforce investment board in the local plan.

7.15(4) The actual implementation of ITAs will involve the service provider(s) in the region where the participant resides and the selected training provider. Payment amounts and duration of an ITA may be limited according to the needs identified in the individual's employment plan and specified in the local plan.