

What is a Measurable Skill Gain?*

** NOTE: This information can be displayed on the “Skills Gain” screen in OWCMS by pressing a button named “What is a Measurable Skills Gain?” that appears near the top right portion of this tab.*

Program participants who are enrolled in an education or training program leading to a recognized diploma, degree, an industry-recognized credential, or employment are evaluated for Measurable Skill Gains as a performance measure. Measurable Skill Gains is intended to capture progress and is not an exit-based measure. A gain must be attained and documented by the end of each Program Year (June 30th).

A participant can attain a measurable skill gain via one of the following:

1. Educational Functioning Level

- Definition: Achievement of at least one educational functioning level, if receiving instruction below postsecondary education level
- Option 1: Comparing initial educational functioning level, as measured by a pre-test, with the participant’s educational functioning level, as measured by a post-test
- Option 2: Enrolling in postsecondary education and training during the program year if the participant exits a program below the postsecondary level

2. Secondary School Diploma or Equivalent

- Definition: Obtaining certification of attaining passing scores on a State-recognized high school equivalency test or earning a secondary school diploma or State-recognized equivalent through a credit-bearing secondary education program

3. Secondary or Postsecondary Transcript/Report Card (for sufficient number of credit hours)

- Definition for Secondary: Transcript or report card for 1 semester – passing 5 credit hours (or the number necessary to be on track to graduate for those in their senior year)
- Definition for Postsecondary: Transcript or report card for at least 12 credit hours per semester for full-time students, or for part-time students, a total of at least 12 credit hours over 2 completed consecutive semesters

4. Training Milestone: Satisfactory Progress Report from Employer/Training Provider

- Definition: Completion of On-the-Job Training (OJT) or completion of one year of an apprenticeship program or similar milestones, from an employer or training provider who is providing training. May include training reports on milestones completed as the individual masters the required job skills, or steps to complete an OJT. May also include increases in pay resulting from newly acquired skills or increased performance

5. Skills Progression: Exam-based Benchmark or Credential

- Definition: Passage of an exam required for an occupation or progress attaining technical/occupational skills as evidenced by trade-related benchmarks, such as knowledge-based exams