

# WORK READINESS TOOL REVISED FOR SUNDANCE FAMILY FDN

EMPLOYER NAME:		EMPLOYEE EVALUATION			
Participant Name:		Worksite:			
Participant Job Title:		Worksite Supervisor/Reviewer:			
Start Date:		Current Review Date:			
FOUNDATION SKILL	PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS	Performance Improvement Plan Needed (1)	Needs Development (2)	Proficient (3)	Exemplary (4)
<b>See page 3 for more detailed grading descriptions</b>					
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	Understanding work expectations for attendance and adhering to them. Notifying supervisor in advance in case of absence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PUNCTUALITY</b>	Understanding work expectations for punctuality. Arriving on time for work, taking and returning from breaks on time, and calling supervisor prior to being late.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>WORKPLACE APPEARANCE</b>	Dressing appropriately for position and duties. Practicing personal hygiene appropriate for position and duties.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>TAKING INITIATIVE</b>	Participating fully in task or project from initiation to completion. Initiating interaction with supervisor for next task upon completion of previous one.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>QUALITY OF WORK</b>	Giving best effort, evaluating own work, and utilizing feedback to improve work performance. Striving to meet quality standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMUNICATION SKILLS</b>	Speaking clearly and communicating effectively – verbally and non-verbally. Listening attentively. Using language appropriate for work environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>RESPONSE TO SUPERVISION</b>	Accepting direction, feedback, and constructive criticism with positive attitude and using information to improve work performance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>TEAMWORK</b>	Relating positively with co-workers. Working productively with individuals and teams. Respecting diversity in race, gender, and culture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PROBLEM-SOLVING/ CRITICAL-THINKING</b>	Exercising sound reasoning and analytical thinking. Using knowledge and information from job to solve workplace problems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>WORKPLACE CULTURE POLICY AND SAFETY</b>	Demonstrating understanding of workplace culture and policy. Complying with health and safety rules. Exhibiting integrity and honesty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SPECIFIC WORKPLACE AND CAREER SKILL</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(4)</b>
<b>ENGAGEMENT IN “SOMETHING MEANINGFUL”</b>	<i>Either attending high school, completing high school degree, completing a GED, applying to/accepted into/attending a post-secondary institution (e.g. college, technical school, etc.), applying to/maintaining paid employment, or engaging in “professional volunteering” (E.g., Peace Corp, VISTA, internship, etc.), or entering the military.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY</b>	<i>Creating and adhering to a budget or being able to do so, earning or taking steps to earn a living wage, and having and regularly contributing to personal savings or taking steps toward doing so</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JOB APPLICATION/ EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS</b>	<i>Has skills necessary to secure a job, including ability to effectively locate open positions, identify positions that are a good match for them, write a resume, complete a job application, write a cover letter, and engage in an interview.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Employers may add as many or few additional skills as they see fit based on the position.</i>	<b>TOTAL SCORE _____</b> <i>(add 4-box total; average score = total/# of skills)</i>	# checked X 1 <i>Total: _____</i>	# checked X 2 <i>Total: _____</i>	# checked X 3 <i>Total: _____</i>	# checked X 4 <i>Total: _____</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>To meet work readiness skill attainment:</b></p> <p>(1)* employee must have an overall average score that is “proficient” (3.0) or employee must meet “proficient” standard in 80% of the total categories listed.</p> <p>(2) supervisor MUST verify that performance on job was satisfactory.</p> <p>(3) employee must not have been fired from this work experience.</p> <p><i>*Examples: If there are 10 skill categories, participant must have a minimum score of 30 (3 x 10) out of a possible 40 or be proficient in at least 8 of the 10 categories. If an employer chose 15 skills to measure, participants would need minimum score of 45 (3 X15) out of a possible 60 or be proficient in at least 12 of the 15 categories.</i></p>		<p><b>Employee had satisfactory work performance and has met minimum total score:</b></p> <p>Employer Signature: _____</p> <p>Employee Signature _____</p> <p>Date: _____ (see page 2 for comments)</p>			

**Review Comments/Goals:**

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**Employer**

**Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TIPS FOR IMPLEMENTING WORK READINESS TOOL**

- **FLEXIBILITY:** This work readiness tool is modifiable to best meet employer’s needs. Ten foundation skills have already been listed. Employers may measure all or most of these skills and are also encouraged to add any additional workplace and career skills.
- **SAMPLE SKILLS:** Listed below are examples of potential additional skills.

Occupation/Technical Skills	Academic Skills	Leadership Skills	Business Skills
-- Occupation-specific skills -- Industry-sector skills -- Industry-wide skills -- Understanding all aspects of an industry	-- Written communication -- Reading and reviewing -- Mathematics and data analysis -- STEM: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics -- Basic computer skills	-- Leadership -- Creative thinking/innovation -- Project management -- Teaching and instructing	-- Customer service skills -- Telephone skills -- Planning and organizing -- Scheduling & coordinating -- Using computer applications

- **PREPARATION:** Employers should review tool with the youth on or prior to the first day of the work experience. Depending on the number of youth at a worksite and the employer’s discretion, this can be done as part of an employer-led group orientation or individually with each young worker. At the conclusion, each youth should have a clear understanding of their job description and expectations, what work readiness skills they will be measured on, and how often they will be measured.
- **FREQUENCY:** It is recommended that employers conduct more than one evaluation. Benefits of administering bi-weekly or “mid-point” assessments include the ability for employers to: offer youth constructive feedback; formally recognize positive work performances; address small issues before they become larger ones; and formally communicate youth performance with local program staff to ensure added support. An additional benefit is that local areas may be able to document the work readiness progress if a participant who has already proven to be proficient in work readiness leaves the program prior to its end.
- **FIRST EVALUATION:** The first evaluation can also be used as a helpful diagnostic and developmental tool that is maximized when delivered within the first two or three weeks. For participants experiencing challenges and have received a “1” in any category, a performance improvement plan should outline a set of goals in the comment section. In the past, some employers have had youth first assess their own performance and use any gaps in assessments to promote positive communication.
- **GRADING SCALE:** A grading scale of foundation skills has been listed on page 3 for employer convenience. To add any additional skills, employers can copy the language in the “general key” and modify as they see fit.

**Sources:** Tool content and design is based on three general sources encompassing public study, private research, and practical local application.

(1) US Dept. of Labor – ETA’s “ Building Blocks for Competency Models” [http://www.careeronestop.org/CompetencyModel/pyramid\\_definition.aspx](http://www.careeronestop.org/CompetencyModel/pyramid_definition.aspx)

(2) Employer research collaboration of The Conference Board, Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, Corporate Voices, & Society for HR Management includes online-accessible reports: “New Graduates’ Workforce Readiness”, “Are They Really Ready to Work?”, and “The Ill-Prepared US Workforce”.

(3) Sample tool design is based most closely on the Massachusetts Work-Based Learning Plan (<http://www.skillslibrary.com/wbl.htm>). The Seattle King County’s Learning and Employability Profile, and other tools from the 2009 Summer Youth Employment Initiative under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act were also utilized. For more info, see: “Tips on Measuring Work Readiness” [www.workforce3one.org/view/5000910643776065645/info](http://www.workforce3one.org/view/5000910643776065645/info)

## EMPLOYEE EVALUATION GRADING SCALE

### ATTENDANCE

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Excessive absences consistently impact work performance. Additional training is needed.	Below 90% attendance, but participant seeks out opportunities to make up missed work.	Maintains 90% attendance and notifies supervisor ahead of time prior to absence.	100% attendance or missed one day with valid reason that did not occur during first two weeks.

### PUNCTUALITY

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Excessive lateness consistently impacts work performance. Additional training is needed.	Inconsistent in arriving to work, returning from breaks on time, and calling supervisor prior to lateness.	Arrives to work & returns from breaks on time with rare exception. If late, calls supervisor ahead of time.	Perfect or near perfect in arriving for work and returning from breaks on time. Model for other workers.

### WORKPLACE APPEARANCE

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Has not yet demonstrated appropriate appearance and/or personal hygiene for position and duties.	Inconsistent in demonstrating appropriate appearance and/or personal hygiene for workplace.	Dresses appropriately and practices hygiene for position and duties with rare exception.	Consistent display of professional appearance and hygiene serves as a model for other workers.

### TAKING INITIATIVE

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Reluctant to begin tasks without significant staff intervention. Needs frequent reminders. Additional training may be needed.	Inconsistently begins or remains on task. Needs occasional prompting. Often satisfied with bare minimum performance.	Begins and remains on task until completion with rare exception. Can work independently. Initiates interaction for next task.	Consistently begins/remains on task until completion, and initiates interaction for next task. Can work independently, and leads others.

### QUALITY OF WORK

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Has not yet given best effort. Rarely evaluates work and utilizes feedback. Completes work inconsistently. Additional training may be needed.	Uneven work quality. Sometimes evaluates own work and utilizes feedback, but inconsistent in meeting quality standards.	Quality of work meets expectations. Evaluates own work, and utilizes employer feedback to improve performance.	Quality of work often exceeds expectations. Consistently gives best effort. Evaluates own work and utilizes employer feedback.

### COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Seldom speaks clearly or listens attentively. Repeatedly uses inappropriate language for the workplace. May need additional training and support.	Inconsistent in communicating in manner and language appropriate for workplace. Inconsistent in effort to speak clearly or listen attentively.	Demonstrates positive oral and non-verbal communication with rare exception. Listens attentively and uses language appropriate for workplace.	Consistently demonstrates positive oral/non-verbal communication skills. Speaks clearly and listens attentively. Can effectively present to a group if needed.

### RESPONSE TO SUPERVISION

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Reluctant to accept feedback and constructive criticism from supervisor. Responds with poor verbal or non-verbal communication. Additional training may be necessary.	Inconsistent in accepting direction, feedback, and constructive criticism from supervisor. Shows potential for improvement.	Accepts direction and constructive criticism with positive attitude with rare exception. Uses feedback to improve work performance.	Consistently accepts direction and constructive criticism with positive attitude. Uses feedback to improve work performance, and provides new and useful ideas to employer.

### TEAMWORK

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Has not yet demonstrated appropriate group behaviors. Improvement needed in treating others with respect. Rarely contributes to group efforts. Additional training may be necessary.	Inconsistent in promoting positive group behaviors amongst coworkers, and in contributing to group efforts. Shows potential for improvement.	Works well with co-workers, is respectful, and contributes to group efforts with rare exception. Respects diversity within the workplace.	Consistently facilitates positive group dynamics. Demonstrates leadership that plays a significant role in success of group efforts. Promotes larger group unity.

### PROBLEM-SOLVING/CRITICAL THINKING

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Makes little or no effort to use knowledge learned from the job to solve workplace problems.	Inconsistent in using sound reasoning to solve work problems. Shows potential for improvement.	Uses sound reasoning, and job knowledge to solve workplace problems. Shows initiative in improving skills.	Consistently applies sound reasoning to solve work problems. Identifies potential problems before they can occur.

### WORKPLACE CULTURE, POLICY AND SAFETY

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Has not demonstrated understanding of workplace policies/ethics. Has not completed applicable training on workplace .	Inconsistent in demonstrating understanding of workplace culture, policies, and safety rules.	Demonstrates understanding of workplace policies. Completed safety training if applicable, and adheres to rules. Exhibits honesty and integrity.	Shows clear understanding of work policies and safety rules. Exhibits honesty and integrity. Has completed applicable safety trainings and has led coworkers.

### ENGAGEMENT IN SOMETHING MEANINGFUL

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Isn't working towards any of the following: completing high school or obtaining a GED, attending a post-secondary institution, entering the military, or participating in a professional volunteering opportunity.	Is working towards one of the following, but needs substantial support to be successful: completing high school or obtaining a GED, attending a post-secondary institution, entering the military, or participating in a professional volunteering opportunity	Either is (a) in high school and doing just enough to graduate; (b) completing a GED; (c) applying to the military, jobs, a "professional volunteering" opportunity, or a post-secondary institution.	If person is in high school, then he/she is on target to graduate with honors or with other notable accomplishments. If person has completed high school or a GED, either is (a) accepted into or is attending a post-secondary institution and is on track to graduate, (b) participating in the military or a professional internship and is doing well, or (c) has secured or is maintaining employment.

### FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Is not yet demonstrating or developing the skills and commitment required for planning and adhering to a budget, maintaining a living wage job, and creating and contributing to a personal savings. May need additional training.	Inconsistent in demonstrating and developing the skills and commitment required for planning and adhering to a budget, maintaining a living wage job, and creating and contributing to a personal savings, and development is needed.	With rare exception, demonstrates the skills and commitment required for planning and adhering to a budget, maintaining a living wage job, and creating and contributing to a personal savings, and shows initiative in improving skills.	Consistently demonstrates skills and commitment required for planning and adhering to a budget, maintaining a living wage job, and creating and contributing to a personal savings required for the position. Often exceeds expectations.

### JOB SEEKING SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Is not yet demonstrating or developing the skills needed to apply for a job successfully, such as being able to effectively locate open positions, identify positions that are a good match for them, write a resume, complete a job application, write a cover letter, and engage in an interview; and needs to have a formal plan for improving skills. May need additional training.	Inconsistent in demonstrating and developing skills needed to apply for a job, such as being able to effectively locate open positions, identify positions that are a good match for them, write a resume, complete a job application, write a cover letter, and engage in an interview; and development is needed.	Has the basic skills required to apply for a job, such as being able to effectively locate open positions, identify positions that are a good match for them, write a resume, complete a job application, write a cover letter, and engage in an interview; and shows initiative in improving skills.	Has the basic skills necessary for applying for a job, and is either exemplary in one or more of the required areas or has secured a job using these skills (i.e., being able to effectively locate open positions, identify positions that are a good match for them, write a resume, complete a job application, write a cover letter, and engage in an interview)..

### GENERAL KEY

Perf. Improvement Plan Needed	Needs Development	Proficient	Exemplary
Is not yet demonstrating the skills required for the position and needs to have a formal plan for improving skills. May need additional training.	Inconsistent in demonstrating and developing skills for the position, but development is needed.	Demonstrates the skills required for the position with rare exception, and shows initiative in improving skills.	Consistently demonstrates skills required for the position. Often exceeds expectations and has emerged as leader that improves overall team.

***This general key is adaptable for employers to copy, paste in boxes on page 1, and modify accordingly for job-specific skills.***