

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 190
August 17, 2015
WIOA IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Background

At a special meeting in October 2014, the Board adopted a four-committee structure to begin the implementation process and to support the Workforce Board and the Governor on critical decision points regarding implementation of WIOA. The four Committees are:

1. Steering Committee
2. Committee for Sector Strategies to Close Skill Gaps in the Workplace
3. Performance Accountability and Eligible Training Provider List Committee
4. Education and Career Pathways through Integrated Service Delivery Models Committee

In November, the Board adopted a WIOA work plan detailing the work of the four committees in preparation for the Act's implementation. Committees were assigned the responsibility of developing recommendations on relevant policy issues, and to bring these to the Steering Committee for consideration. Upon approval by the Steering Committee, these policy recommendations come before the Workforce Board for consideration, in alignment with the intention of the WIOA legislation, and to guide the transformation to a model state system.

After several months of meetings, the Steering Committee considered the first of the subcommittee recommendations at their May 6 meeting. All three subcommittees presented recommendations, providing the supporting background. These recommendations are included in this Tab, with backup documentation in support of the recommendations for the Board's consideration.

Action: The Workforce Board is asked to adopt WIOA implementation recommendations.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

WHEREAS, The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) is designated as the state's Workforce Board by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act requires states to fully implement the Act's plan requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Board adopted a four committee structure to develop recommendations for the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to be conducted through a Steering Committee/Subcommittee structure; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act subcommittees used an open and inclusive process to develop policy recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Steering Committee considered and approved these subcommittee policy recommendations to advance to the Workforce Board,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Workforce Board approves the presented policy recommendations and directs staff to implement and include these in the Washington Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Plan.

WIOA Steering Committee Recommendations Summary

- A. **Sectors Recommendation** *(Developed by the Local Governance and Sector Strategies Subcommittee and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee)*

A recommendation to convene a work group to develop a rubric aligned to the Workforce Board approved sectors framework that will be used by local areas.

- B. **Regions Recommendation** *(Developed by the Local Governance and Sector Strategies Subcommittee and approved by the Steering Committee with one “Nay”)*

A recommendation to develop a policy, with components as described, that will guide the identification of workforce regions and clarify the responsibilities of the state, local area and newly formed regions under the Act.

- C. **Out-of-School Youth Recommendation** *(Developed by the Education and Career Pathways Subcommittee and approved by the Steering Committee with two “Nays”)*

A recommendation to treat any student in a GED program, including Open Doors 1418 GED programs, as an out-of-school youth for the purposes of WIOA eligibility determinations.

- D. **Unified or Combined Plan Recommendation** *(Developed by the Unified or Combined Plan Task Force and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee)*

A recommendation for submission of a combined state WIOIA plan, with as many partner programs as possible, after consideration of mutually beneficial impacts to customers.

- E. **One-Stop Certification Process Recommendation** *(Developed by the One-Stop Certification Process Task Force and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee)*

A recommendation to adopt the newly developed One-Stop Certification Assessment Tool and its utilization by all 12 local workforce development boards.

- F. **Professional Development Recommendation** *(Developed by the Professional Development Task Force, amended, and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee)*

As amended: A recommendation to convene a cross-agency team of WIOA partner agencies to develop and implement a professional development plan.

Original language: A recommendation to allot a budget for implementation and support of Professional Development training; convening a cross-agency team to develop a plan for cross-agency training opportunities for both management-level staff and front-line staff.

G. **Section 503 – Disability Label Recommendation** (*Developed by the Technology and Access Task Force and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee*)

A recommendation for Monster.com to design within worksource wa.com an enhanced functionality allowing job seekers to choose whether or not to allow the disabled label to be viewable by self-identified Section 503 contractors and government agencies.

H. **Access and Barrier Solutions Advisory Committee (State and Local)** (*Developed by the Technology and Access Task Force, amended, and unanimously approved by the Steering Committee*)[*Amendment is italicized below – 2nd paragraph*]

A recommendation to the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board for a standing committee (Access and Barrier Solutions Advisory Committee) to examine accessibility issues and strategies for improvement within the state’s workforce development system for populations with barriers, and advise the Board. (Membership on state committee should mirror suggested membership of local committee [see below].)

A recommendation that allows each WDC to establish a local committee modeled after the state ABSAC, *or a similar local advisory group*, that informs the local board on issues related to access in the workforce development system and at one-stop centers, including, but not limited to accessibility issues for people with disabilities.

(2) Each WDC may establish procedures for designating an advisory group chair, as well as the length of term of service for advisory group members, if appropriate. The advisory group should consist of representatives of community and agency partner programs that serve people with potential access barriers, reflecting the broad spectrum of local communities served by the WDC. The committees are encouraged to meet the following, but are not limited to this list of members:

- a. People with physical disabilities;
- b. People with sensory disabilities (blind and low-vision, deaf and hard of hearing);
- c. People with behavior or mental health disabilities;
- d. People with cognitive disabilities;
- e. Economically disadvantaged communities;
- f. English Language Acquisition (ELA) or bilingual communities;
- g. Disadvantaged youth;
- h. Long-term unemployed;
- i. Community college disability specialists; and
- j. A representative from a certified one-stop in the local area.