

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 191
September 17, 2015**

CARL D. PERKINS OPT-IN/OPT-OUT OF WIOA COMBINED PLAN

Background

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) provides states with the option of submitting either a Unified or a Combined State Plan on March 3, 2016. The difference between the two plans centers around which programs will be included in the strategies the state adopts for implementation of the Act.

A Unified State Plan would include only the core programs: WIOA Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker, Adult Basic Education, Wagner Peyser, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

A Combined State Plan would include the same core programs, plus one or more of the following programs:

- Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006
- Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act
- Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (under section 6(d)(4)) (*access to employment & training programs*)
- Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (*work programs authorized under section 6(o)*)
- Trade Act of 1974, Chapter 2 of Title II (*layoff aversion; rapid response*)
- Title 38 Chapter 41, United States Code (*Job Counseling, Training, and Placement Service for Veterans*)
- Programs authorized under State unemployment compensation laws
- Older Americans Act of 1965, Title V
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (*employment and training activities*)
- Community Services Block Grant Act (*employment and training activities*)
- Second Chance Act of 2007, Programs authorized under section 212 (*responsible reintegration of offenders*)

On August 17, 2015 Workforce Board members approved a recommendation to submit a combined state plan under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. Further, the recommendation was approved to include as many partner programs as possible, after consideration of mutually beneficial impacts to customers. Potential Workforce system partners are asked to consider key elements when considering the program impacts:

- Partners in combined planning retain full authority over their own funding and program decisions. Combined planning does not cede any authority over funding or program decisions to any other body.
- Partners' role in combined planning is to identify how the workforce system can help their customers achieve job entry, retention, and earning progression; and to indicate

how they can help the rest of the systems' customers succeed on these same goals. This includes increasing education and training as key strategies for achieving job entry, retention, and earnings progression.

- Partners do not submit their entire federal program plan as part of the combined plan—only the portion of their plan that integrates with the state's workforce development system.
- All partners are invited to participate on the state plan writing team.
- Partners are requested to join data sharing agreements that allow their existing data to be used to produce WIOA outcome reports. Data sharing agreements will not be required where legal or technical difficulties make such an arrangement impractical.
- In the combined planning process, each partner will be asked to identify specific actions or strategies that would help customers gain jobs, retention, earnings progression, and move steadily up into secure middle-income careers.

The Workforce Board must make a determination about whether the Carl Perkins program will be a part of the State WIOA Combined Plan. The Workforce Board will submit a letter to the Governor that explains the decision. The letter will identify the pros and cons and other factors that influenced the decision.

The Workforce Board has responsibility for the Perkins program in Washington. The Workforce Board administers this program in close partnership with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). SBCTC administers and oversees program implementation at 34 community and technical colleges across the state. OSPI does the same for 245 high schools across Washington. These funds impact career and technical education programs at school districts and community and technical colleges.

Workforce Board staff consulted with both OSPI and SBCTC to determine the benefits and challenges that participation in a combined plan would have on the systems' programs.

OSPI

Benefits:

Challenges:

SBCTC

Benefits:

Challenges:

Recommendation: Staff is asking the Workforce Board discuss the recommendation to opt-in/opt-out of the State WIOA Combined Plan for the Carl D. Perkins program. (*Discussion Only*)