

# 2015 Washington Workforce Development News



## December 11, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD HOLDS SPECIAL MEETING MONDAY ON WORKFORCE REGIONS**

The Workforce Board will hold a special phone-in meeting from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 14 and take action on a recommendation to Governor Inslee that designates workforce planning regions. These designations are required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. More details at:

<http://wtb.wa.gov/December2015agenda.asp>

### **ALSO MONDAY: STATE WORKFORCE PLAN WEBINAR**

Be sure to register for an open-captioned webinar that takes you through the state's key workforce strategies Monday, Dec. 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Workforce Board staff will describe the strategic section of the state's draft workforce plan, newly named Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP). Learn more about the webinar and register at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WAWorkforcePlan.asp>. There's also a link for captioning services on this page.

### **WASHINGTON WINS NGA GRANT FOR POLICY ACADEMY FOCUSED ON WORK-BASED LEARNING**

Washington was one of six states selected to participate in a new policy academy focused on work-based learning for young adults. Governor Inslee tapped the Workforce Board to be the lead agency in applying for and implementing a \$100,000 grant from the National Governors Association. The 18-month leadership program focuses on helping state teams incorporate work-based learning into their overall talent pipeline. Gov. Inslee is chair of the NGA Education and Workforce Committee. <http://www.nga.org/cms/home/news-room/news-releases/2015--news-releases/col2-content/states-look-to-increase-career.default.html>

### **DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (DVR) HOSTS DEC. 30 WEBINARS ON STATE PLAN**

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Washington State Rehabilitation Council invite comments on the 2016-20 draft state plan aimed at helping individuals with disabilities get good jobs that pay well. Review the plan, which is required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and sign up for one of three webinars. The first webinar starts at 10:30 a.m. Each webinar is captioned. For more information contact [Andrew.Clemons@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Andrew.Clemons@dshs.wa.gov). View the draft State Plan: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ra/division-vocational-rehabilitation/2016-2020-draft-dvr-state-plan>

### **WASA NAMES STEVEN WEBB 2016 STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR**

The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) has named Dr. Steven Webb, superintendent of Vancouver Public Schools, the 2016 Superintendent of the Year. Webb has led efforts to increase program choices in grades K-12, expanded school-community partnerships that meet the needs of low-income students, and helped personalize education through one-on-one technology. More:

<http://wasa.informz.net/informzdataservice/onlineversion/ind/bWFpbGluZ2luc3RhbmNlaWQ9NDg0MTU3OSZzdWJzY3JpYmVyaWQ9ODE3MTA3MDYw>

## November 23, 2015

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON WORKFORCE PLANNING REGIONS RUNS THROUGH DEC. 8**

The Workforce Board has opened up a public comment period on a proposal that would retain 12 workforce planning regions and ask for specific plans to work with contiguous Workforce Development Councils under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Also, the local planning guidelines that include questions on regional planning are available for comment. Deadline to provide feedback is December 8. More

details at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/workforceplanningregions.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD OPENS STATE WORKFORCE PLAN FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

Last week, the Workforce Board approved a draft version of the state's strategic plan for workforce development and also approved a new name for the plan: Talent and Prosperity for All--The Strategic Plan for Unlocking Washington's Workforce Potential. The new plan focuses on four key areas, including: business engagement, integrated service delivery to streamline customer service, accessibility and technology, and performance accountability in the evaluation of key workforce programs. The strategic plan sets the stage for a larger document that incorporates detailed, operational planning from state agencies. You can take a survey about the plan, send us an email with your feedback, and read more about the plan at:

<http://wtb.wa.gov/WAWorkforcePlan.asp>

### **GOVERNOR'S STEM ALLIANCE ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN HOUR OF CODE**

The Governor's STEM Education Innovation Alliance is encouraging Washington schools to have their students spend an hour learning computer coding skills during Computer Science Education Week, Dec. 7-13. It's part of a national Hour of Code that helps students see themselves succeeding in computer science careers by demonstrating that it's easy, engaging, and fun. Schools can register at: <https://hourofcode.com/us#join> or contact Caroline King at [caroline@washingtonstem.org](mailto:caroline@washingtonstem.org) for more details.

### **WASHINGTON BUSINESS ALLIANCE SEEKS CTE SUCCESS STORIES**

The Washington Business Alliance, a nonprofit organization of businesses and business leaders, is seeking successful examples of career and technical education in Washington, as well as stories about the need for this kind of relevant, hands-on learning. More details at: <http://www.planwashington.org/career-tech-education>

## **November 13, 2015**

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO TAKE ACTION ON STATE WORKFORCE PLAN NOV. 19**

The Workforce Board is expected to review and take action on the state's draft workforce plan Thursday, Nov. 19 at South Puget Sound Community College's new campus in Lacey. The plan guides workforce development in Washington. The Board will also consider several recommendations from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Steering Committee. Get more details at <http://wtb.wa.gov/November19agenda.asp>.

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO HOST VA SCHOOLS WORKSHOP NEXT WEEK IN YAKIMA**

The Workforce Board Veterans Education staff will host a workshop Monday, Nov. 16 from 1-4 p.m. at Perry Technical Institute in Yakima for schools working with veterans. Staff will discuss and answer questions about compliance surveys (audits). For more information, email [Russell.Sonmore@wtb.wa.gov](mailto:Russell.Sonmore@wtb.wa.gov) or call (360) 709-4626.

### **WDC OF SEATTLE-KING COUNTY RECEIVES FEDERAL FUNDING TO SERVE UNEMPLOYED YOUTH**

The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education have awarded \$700,000 to the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County to support a project aimed at helping King County unemployed, out-of-school youth find and keep jobs through a more cohesive employment system. In King County, nearly 25,000 young people ages 16 to 24 are not in school and not working. Find out more at <http://www.seekingwdc.org/latest-news/>

### **EMPLOYERS HONORED FOR EXEMPLARY PRACTICES IN HIRING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

The Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment and the Washington State Business Leadership Network have honored seven public and private employers for their exemplary work recruiting, hiring, retaining, and promoting individuals with disabilities. View the winners and find out more at:

<https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/governors-committee-honors-employers-who-hire-people-with-disabilities>

## **NEW CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR NAMED AT OSPI**

George Aszklar has been named the new CTE Director at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, succeeding Betty Klattenhoff, who held the position since 2008. Aszklar worked in the Bethel School District for 37 years and is the Educational Chair for the Pierce County Construction-Manufacturing Partnership. He has built strong partnerships with business and industry over the years, and has led and implemented data-driven initiatives that promote rigorous academic standards in CTE, enabling students to be both college and career ready. More about CTE: <http://www.k12.wa.us/CareerTechEd/>

## **October 27, 2015**

### **PUBLIC FORUM ON STATE'S WORKFORCE PLAN SET FOR LATER TODAY IN YAKIMA**

The Workforce Board will host a public forum with the South Central Workforce Development Council from 4-6 p.m. today at Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center and share core themes for the state's workforce plan. The public is invited to provide feedback on the proposed plan. Draft strategies address: forging better connections between businesses and the workforce system, collaborating across a variety of workforce programs to better serve customers, using technology and other solutions to increase access to services, and putting in place a next-generation accountability system to evaluate workforce program performance. More: <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceForums.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD LAUNCHES SURVEY TO GET FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED STATE WORKFORCE PLAN**

The Workforce Board has launched a quick, three-minute survey to receive additional feedback on the state's workforce plan. If you can't attend a public forum (like the one mentioned above), this is your chance to weigh in on key sections of the plan. Take the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H95SCHQ>

### **WORKSOURCE EVERETT REEMPLOYMENT TEAM WINS NATIONAL AWARD**

The WorkSource Everett reemployment team received national recognition earlier this month when they were honored with a James F. Walls Team Award at the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) conference in Indianapolis. Working out of the highest volume WorkSource office in the state, the team helped more than 15,000 people return to work in the last year by increasing weekend and evening jobseeker workshops, targeting unemployment claimants earlier, and making personal phone calls to encourage jobseekers to return to WorkSource to look for jobs. More at: <https://www.esd.wa.gov/newsroom/worksource-everett-reemployment-team-wins-national-award>

### **PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT ON PROPOSED PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOL RULE CHANGES**

The 2014 Legislature revised the Private Vocational Schools Act. The new law allows a student whose tuition is paid by a public agency or business to file a complaint, among other changes. The Workforce Board has drafted revisions to its administrative rules (WAC 490-105) to reflect the new law. The Workforce Board has also proposed simplifying some regulations to make them easier to understand. View the proposed changes, submit comments, and learn more about an upcoming Nov. 4 public hearing webinar at <http://wtb.wa.gov/pcs.asp>.

### **WA STUDENTS ENCOURAGED TO PITCH IDEAS, WIN PRIZES WITH VERIZON APP CHALLENGE**

Students are encouraged to enter the Verizon App Challenge and solve problems through teamwork, critical thinking, and entrepreneurship. No coding experience is required and there is no cost to enter. Some winning students will have a chance to be coached by MIT Media Lab professionals to build their app and bring it to the Google Play store. [http://appchallenge.tsaweb.org/?CMP=DMC-SMB\\_Z\\_ZZ\\_ZZ\\_Z\\_OO\\_N\\_X00010](http://appchallenge.tsaweb.org/?CMP=DMC-SMB_Z_ZZ_ZZ_Z_OO_N_X00010)

## October 15, 2015

### **ESD COMMISSIONER TO LEAD NATIONAL WORKFORCE ORGANIZATION**

Employment Security Department Commissioner Dale Peinecke, who sits on the Workforce Board, was elected by the National Association of State Workforce Agencies to serve as president-elect of the organization through September 2016. He will become the association's president in October of 2016. More details: <https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/esd-commissioner-to-lead-national-workforce-organization>

### **ONLINE WORKFORCE SYSTEM DIRECTORY FEATURES OVER 40 PROGRAMS**

The Workforce Board has updated its online directory of Washington's workforce development programs. The directory provides a detailed look at the state's 40-plus education and training programs and the funding that flows to each program. More at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceDevelopmentDirectory.asp>

### **DEADLINE APPROACHES TO WEIGH IN ON WORKFORCE PLANNING REGIONS**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) encourages new approaches to workforce system planning, including a requirement that the Governor identify possible workforce planning regions. The Workforce Board is soliciting input on the proposed regions. Workforce planning regions unite neighboring Workforce Development Councils with shared economic conditions, demographics, or labor pools to create regionally coordinated strategic plans. The deadline to submit comments is October 18. More info:

<http://wtb.wa.gov/workforceplanningregions.asp>

### **REHABILITATION ACT WEBINAR SET FOR NEXT WEEK**

Learn more about the federal Rehabilitation Act by participating in a webinar Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. It's the second of two webinars that highlight key changes in vocational rehabilitation services. The webinar also addresses the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation's role as a core program of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Contact DVR Policy Manager Michele Mulhern at [Michele.Mulhern@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Michele.Mulhern@dshs.wa.gov), (360) 725-3621, for more information or accommodations. No pre-registration is required and the webinar is open-captioned.

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The 2014 Legislature revised the Private Vocational Schools Act. The Workforce Board, in turn, has drafted revisions to its administrative rules (WAC 490-105) to reflect the new law. The Workforce Board has also proposed simplifying some regulations to make them easier to understand. View the proposed changes, submit comments, and learn more about an upcoming Nov. 4 public hearing webinar at

<http://wtb.wa.gov/pcs.asp>.

## September 30, 2015

### **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELEASES COLLEGE SCORECARD**

The U.S. Department of Education released a new data tool that allows prospective students to view and compare information about colleges and universities, including average annual cost, graduation rate, and salary after attending. College Scorecard also offers detailed information on cost, financial aid and debt, and student demographics. Like Washington's CareerBridge.wa.gov, College Scorecard provides labor market outcomes, which can help students make sound decisions on their education and career paths. Check it out at:

<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

### **TIME TO WEIGH IN ON WORKFORCE PLANNING REGIONS**

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<http://wtb.wa.gov/workforceplanningregions.asp>

### **LABOR DEPARTMENT ISSUES RFP FOR NEW JOB CORPS ACADEMY**

The U.S. Department of Labor has issued a Request for Proposal to create a new start-up on the current campus of the Cascades Job Corps in Sedro-Woolley. The pilot will not be a continuation of the traditional Job Corps program currently operated on the site. The pilot is expected to focus on health care and information technology sectors and will have a two-year base period from February 2016 through January 2018, with options for renewal. The Academy will enable youth ages 16-21 to complete industry-recognized credentials, secure a job, and/or advance to higher levels of education and employment. More: <http://1.usa.gov/1LkPbmJ>

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<http://wtb.wa.gov/pcs.asp>

### **WA-ACTE OPENS REGISTRATION, SEEKS PRESENTATIONS FOR FALL CONFERENCE**

The Washington Association for Career and Technical Education's fall conference is set for Nov. 5-6 at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound. It will focus on STEM and the arts. Interested in presenting? The call for presentations is open through Oct. 15. Register for the conference or submit a presentation proposal at

<http://wa-acte.org/confupcoming.php>.

## **September 16, 2015**

### **PUBLIC FORUMS ON STATE WORKFORCE PLAN COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU**

Public forums are being held to collect feedback on the state's draft workforce development plan. The first meetings were held in Spokane and Vancouver earlier this month. Draft strategies address: forging better connections between businesses and the workforce system, collaborating across a variety of workforce programs to better serve customers, using technology and other solutions to increase access to services, and putting in place a next-generation accountability system to evaluate workforce program performance. More: <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceForums.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD MEETS TOMORROW IN OLYMPIA**

At their meeting this Thursday, the Workforce Board will review public input from forums on the state's draft workforce development plan at a meeting that starts at 9 a.m. at the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. The board will also review a preliminary outline of the state plan. In addition, the board will hear a presentation on proposed workforce planning regions for implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Complete agenda: <http://wtb.wa.gov/September2015agenda.asp>

### **CAN'T MAKE IT TO A PUBLIC FORUM?**

You can view a slide deck of the draft state workforce plan and send us an email with your comments at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceForums.asp>. The Workforce Board is also working with partners to create a survey so you can respond online. We will post the survey to the web once it's complete.

## **WASHINGTON AMONG WINNERS OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR APPRENTICESHIP GRANTS**

Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Labor awarded \$175 million through its American Apprenticeship grant competition, the largest single investment to date to expand U.S. apprenticeships. The two Washington winners were the state's Department of Labor and Industries, which received a \$5 million grant to fund the creation of an information technology apprenticeship program and diversify participation in existing traditional apprenticeship programs, and South Seattle College, which received \$4.8 million for a project focused on creating three new and expanding 12 existing apprenticeships in the advanced manufacturing and maritime sectors. Check out the federal award at <http://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/grants.htm> then check out WA apprenticeships on CareerBridge.wa.gov at <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Page.aspx?cid=188>

## **TOMORROW IS DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR WA SERVICE CORPS POSITIONS**

Interested in tutoring and mentoring children, helping the unemployed land jobs, or connecting veterans and their families to community resources? The Washington Service Corps has several open positions at locations around the state. But you'll need to act now! The application deadline is Thursday, Sept. 17, with positions starting Oct. 1. <http://washingtonservicecorps.org/become-a-member/how-to-apply/>

## **September 3, 2015**

### **PUBLIC FORUMS ON STATE WORKFORCE PLAN TO BE HELD ACROSS WASHINGTON**

Public forums will be held in September and October throughout the state to collect feedback on the state's draft workforce development plan. The first meeting is next Friday (Sept. 11) in Vancouver. Draft strategies address: forging better connections between businesses and the workforce system, bringing together a variety of workforce programs to better serve customers, using technology to increase access to services, and putting in place a next-generation accountability system to evaluate workforce program performance. Other meetings are scheduled for Spokane, Everett, Mount Vernon, Moses Lake, and Seattle. <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceForums.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF STATE'S WORKFORCE PLAN AT SEPTEMBER 17 MEETING**

The Workforce Board meets Thursday, Sept. 17 in Olympia to review input from public forums on the state's draft workforce plan. (See above news item.) The board will also review a preliminary outline of the plan. In addition, the board will hear a presentation on proposed workforce planning regions under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) that recognize local labor sheds, commute patterns, economic development regions, and industry concentration. More details to come at [www.wtb.wa.gov](http://www.wtb.wa.gov)

### **NEW WHERE ARE YOU GOING? CAREER GUIDES AVAILABLE NOW!**

The latest edition of the Workforce Board's ever-popular Where Are You Going? career guide is hot off the press. Order free copies of the guide, which includes a career quiz, information on hundreds of in-demand occupations, job interview tips, and more, at <http://wtb.wa.gov/CareerGuide.asp>. The guide also serves as a printed companion to [www.CareerBridge.wa.gov](http://www.CareerBridge.wa.gov). It's used by middle and high school students, at college career centers, and at WorkSource centers and DSHS Community Service Offices around the state. Get yours today!

### **WA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HOSTS APPRENTICESHIP MEETING IN PASCO**

The Washington State Department of Transportation's Office of Equal Opportunity is hosting a meeting Sept. 22 in Pasco to discuss the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship needs in the Tri-Cities area. Participants are encouraged to share their ideas, especially for improving training for women and minorities interested in entering highway construction-related trades statewide. <http://lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/NewsEvents/Calendar/default.asp>

## August 6, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING ABOUT STATE WORKFORCE PLAN**

The Workforce Board will hold a special phone-in meeting Monday, Aug. 17 to take action on a variety of recommendations endorsed by the WIOA Steering Committee, including the composition of the state's WIOA plan and policies on designation of planning regions, professional development, and One-Stop certification. The Board will also take action on the first three chapters of the state plan concerning Washington's economy, projected workforce demographics, and performance accountability for workforce programs. More details to come at [www.wtb.wa.gov](http://www.wtb.wa.gov).

### **GOVERNOR TAPS NEW WORKFORCE BOARD CHAIR**

Perry England has been appointed by Gov. Jay Inslee to chair the Workforce Board, which advises the Governor and Legislature on workforce development policy, evaluates system performance, and ensures the state's workforce services and programs work together. He succeeds Cindy Zehnder, former chief of staff for Gov. Gregoire, who served as board chair since 2010. England is Vice President of Building Performance at MacDonald-Miller Facility Solutions and has been active in the commercial building industry since 1985. Read more about England and the rest of the Workforce Board at <http://wtb.wa.gov/AboutUs/Members.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD STAFF TO EXPLAIN WIOA'S IMPACT ON EDUCATION AT YAKIMA CONFERENCE**

Middle and high school career and technical education teachers will learn more about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and how it impacts education and training programs next week at the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education conference, Aug. 9-12 in Yakima. Workforce Board staffers Terri Colbert and Eric Wolf will lead a session on the first major reform of the system of federal workforce programs in 15 years. The Workforce Board is a conference sponsor. More at <http://wa-acte.org/confsummer.php>

### **FITZGERALD TO HEAD BENTON-FRANKLIN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Jack Fitzgerald has been selected as the new executive director of the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council in the Tri-Cities area. Fitzgerald will start his new position in mid September and succeeds Cos Edwards. He has worked for the state's Employment Security Department as a WorkSource administrator, leading the Sunnyside and Columbia Basin WorkSource offices since 2008. An aviation support equipment mechanic by trade, Fitzgerald has an MBA in Human Resource Management and a 22-year military background. <http://www.bentonfranklinwdc.com/>

## July 23, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO DISCUSS STATE'S WORKFORCE PLAN AT WALLA WALLA RETREAT**

The Workforce Board will hold its annual retreat July 30-31 in Walla Walla to identify strategic priorities for the state's workforce development plan. The two-day retreat will also highlight economic and demographic trends in Washington, a proposed new performance accountability system under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and innovative strategies for employer engagement.

<http://wtb.wa.gov/July2015agenda.asp>

### **WASHINGTON TRAINING PROVIDERS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR VETERANS CERTIFICATE**

The Washington Department of Veterans Affairs has launched a campaign to encourage postsecondary education and training institutions, including private career schools, to apply for a certificate that shows they are veteran-friendly. Participating institutions must meet several eligibility requirements, including implementing a system that ensures all veterans receive sound academic, career, and financial

advice. Qualifying institutions must also be approved by a State Approving Agency to accept GI Bill benefits. The Workforce Board and the Washington Student Achievement Council are Washington's two State Approving Agencies. More: <http://www.dva.wa.gov/benefits/partners-veteran-supportive-campuses>

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Middle and high school career and technical education teachers will learn more about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and how it impacts education and training programs at next month's Washington Association for Career and Technical Education conference, Aug. 9-12 in Yakima. Workforce Board staffers Terri Colbert and Eric Wolf will lead a session on the first federal reform of the workforce system in 15 years. Visit the Workforce Board's WIOA portal at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>. Register at <http://wa-acte.org/confsummer.php>.

### **SEE WHICH WORKFORCE BILLS WERE SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2015**

The Legislative session is over and now is the time to review the many workforce development-related bills that passed this session. Take a look: <http://wtb.wa.gov/2015sessionbills.asp>

## **July 10, 2015**

### **WIOA STEERING COMMITTEE TO MEET JULY 28**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Steering Committee will review key priorities for implementing the new federal act at a meeting later this month. It's one of several WIOA meetings taking place in July. WIOA promises a higher level of coordination and integration of service delivery for job seekers, among other changes. To find out more about WIOA and associated meetings visit the Workforce Board's WIOA portal at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES REDESIGNED WEBSITE**

ESD has unveiled a redesigned website that can be accessed from mobile phones, tablets, or personal computers. The site is also easier to navigate and quickly directs visitors to key categories, such as unemployment benefits, jobs and training, and employer taxes. Check it out at: <http://www.esd.wa.gov/>

### **DISABILITY LEADERS TO GATHER IN SEATTLE TO CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF DISABILITIES ACT**

More than 100 disability-connected organizations are expected to gather at Westlake Park and Center in Seattle to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act later this month. The act was passed in 1990 to prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities and also requires employers to make reasonable accommodations to enable disabled people to perform on the job. The celebration runs from 4-6 p.m., Wednesday, July 22. More details <https://www.facebook.com/events/850442358358173/>

### **SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON WDC LAUNCHES PROGRAM FOR VETERANS AND LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED**

The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council has launched a program to help workers unemployed for at least 27 weeks, along with unemployed veterans and eligible spouses, prepare for technology and manufacturing jobs. Called Reboot NW, the program will be offered at WorkSource offices in Clark and Cowlitz counties. More at: <http://www.rebootnw.org/>

### **REGISTER NOW FOR WA-ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Time to register for the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education's Aug. 9-12 conference at the Yakima Convention Center. The Workforce Board is among the sponsors of this multi-day conference aimed at CTE teachers from around the state. <http://wa-acte.org/confsummer.php>



## June 25, 2015

### **NEW WHERE ARE YOU GOING CAREER GUIDE IN THE WORKS**

Workforce Board staff are in the final stages of putting together the latest edition of our popular "Where Are You Going?" career guide. It features a career quiz, and includes information on how much occupations pay in Washington, how much education is needed to get the job, how to pay for school, and how to prepare for a job, along with resume writing and interview tips. The guides are free and are designed to work with CareerBridge.wa.gov. Order your copies today at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/CareerGuide.asp>

### **HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE MOST COMPETITIVE SECTORS IN SPOKANE**

Spokane County employment in healthcare and social assistance fields is projected to grow 50 percent faster than the average rate for all industries through 2018, according to a new industry cluster analysis commissioned by the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council. Average wages in healthcare are also 10 percent higher than the average across all industries. More at:

<http://www.wdcspokane.com/news/newsletters/healthcare-workforce-roadmap-st-lukes-volunteer-program/>

### **OBAMA EXTENDS PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM TO CTE STUDENTS**

President Obama has extended the Presidential Scholars program to students in career and technical education (CTE). The current U.S. Presidential Scholars program honors graduating high school seniors for academic excellence, artistic accomplishments, and civic contributions. Now up to 20 high school students who have demonstrated outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in career and technical education fields will be honored. The first U.S. Presidential Scholars in CTE will be nominated in spring 2016.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/06/23/launch-presidential-scholars-career-and-technical-education>

### **OSPI TAPS NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS**

Ken Emmil is the new Assistant Superintendent for Career and College Readiness at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). He succeeds Kathleen Lopp, who has represented K-12 education on the Workforce Board as Superintendent Randy Dorn's designee. Lopp was formerly the executive director of the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education. Her successor, Emmil, has extensive leadership experience, including serving as superintendent with the Colville School District. Most recently he served as Special Assistant for OSPI's Foster Care Program.

### **WORKFORCE BOARD HIRES NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

Patrick Woods, a longtime senior-level public affairs professional who has worked at several state agencies and in the Legislature, has joined the Workforce Board as the agency's director of operations. He succeeds Cynthia Harris, who also had a long and varied state career, and is now retiring (We will miss you Cynthia!). Woods most recently worked at the state's Liquor Control Board, where he led the establishment of an education and outreach program. Passionate about workforce issues, Woods once worked briefly at the Workforce Board, helping pilot the Lifelong Learning Account program in the five-county Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Area. A native of Ireland, Woods is a talented singer who can bring down the house with an inspired a cappella on government projects he is working on.

## June 4, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD RESPONDS TO PROPOSED WIOA REGULATIONS AT SPECIAL MEETING FRIDAY**

The Workforce Board will discuss the state's response to proposed regulations under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) at a special call-in meeting, Friday, June 5. The Board will also take action on membership requirements for Workforce Development Councils. More: <http://wtb.wa.gov/June2015agenda.asp>

## **MICROSOFT APPRENTICE PROGRAM ACCEPTING STUDENT APPLICATIONS THROUGH JULY 1**

The Microsoft Apprentice Program, which provides under-served high school students in King County with business and technology experience along with the opportunity to develop skills and networks critical to professional careers, is currently accepting applications through July 1. Students work several hours after school, Monday through Friday. The program starts in August. <http://teenjobs.org/opportunities/microsoft-apprenticeship-program>

## **SAVE DATE FOR WSAC CONFERENCE ON STUDENT EQUITY AND ACCESS**

The Washington Student Achievement Council will host the second annual Pave the Way Conference October 5-6 in Tacoma to advance equity, access, readiness, and support for under-served students throughout the education system, from preschool through college. Proposals for the conference are being accepted now. <http://wsac.wa.gov/2015pavetheway>

## **LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREER BRIDGE AT SUMMER COUNSELING INSTITUTE**

Workforce Board staff will talk to school counselors about updates to CareerBridge.wa.gov at the June 23-24 Guidance and Counseling Technical Assistance 2015 Summer Institute in Olympia. The conference is sponsored by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington School Counselor Association. The award-winning Career Bridge website features over 6,300 education programs and recently added a video that takes visitors step by step through the site. [http://www.wa-schoolcounselor.org/calendar\\_day.asp?date=6/23/2015&event=48](http://www.wa-schoolcounselor.org/calendar_day.asp?date=6/23/2015&event=48)

# **May 21, 2015**

## **WORKFORCE BOARD ADDRESSES PROPOSED WIOA REGULATIONS AT MAY 28 MEETING**

The Workforce Board will discuss the state's response to proposed regulations under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) at its regular May 28 meeting in Olympia. The Board will also take action on WIOA Steering Committee recommendations and hear WIOA Task Force reports on implementing the act. More: <http://wtb.wa.gov/May2015agenda.asp>

## **PUBLIC REVIEW SOUGHT ON WIA PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

The Workforce Board staff is preparing to negotiate with the U.S. Department of Labor on performance targets for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs for the 12 months beginning July 1. Information about performance levels under consideration are available for public review and input through noon, Wednesday, May 27. The Workforce Board will decide at its May 28 meeting on performance levels to be proposed. Note: WIA performance measures continue to be in effect during the transition year for implementing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/WIAPerformanceTargets.asp>

## **10th ANNUAL ENERGY AND CONSTRUCTION SUMMIT SET FOR MAY 28-29**

Learn more about new technology, industry perspectives, career readiness credentialing, and apprenticeships at the 10th Annual Energy and Construction Best Practices Summit at Bates Technical College in Tacoma May 28-29. Keynote speaker is Department of Commerce Clean Tech Sector Lead Brian Young.

Register: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eaix2r5ka70e0b59&oseq=&c=&ch=>

## **SEATTLE-KING COUNTY WDC CEO MARLENA SESSIONS JOINS NATIONAL VETERANS ORGANIZATION**

Marlena Sessions, CEO of the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County, has joined the Board of Directors of the National Association of Veteran Serving Organizations (NAVSO). NAVSO's mission is to make

services for veterans and military families more effective and efficient. <http://www.seekingwdc.org/latest-news/2015/5/8/for-immediate-release-wdc-ceo-joins-navso-board-of-directors>

## May 14, 2015

### **FRIDAY IS LAST CHANCE TO SHARE WIOA RULES FEEDBACK WITH WORKFORCE BOARD**

The Workforce Board is working with the state's Employment Security Department to catalogue feedback and identify places that will help us fully develop a statewide response to proposed rules for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The extended deadline is tomorrow, May 15, to get your comments to us. So don't delay! The Workforce Board will provide a consolidated set of recommendations to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education. More at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOAProposedRules.asp>

### **NEW CAREER BRIDGE HOW-TO VIDEO HELPS VISITORS USE THE SITE**

The Workforce Board has created a new how-to video that offers visitors a simple tutorial on how to use CareerBridge.wa.gov, the national award-winning website used everyday at WorkSource centers and in middle schools, high schools, colleges, and libraries around the state. Career Bridge features over 6,300 education programs, state labor market information on how much jobs pay and whether they're hiring, and a career quiz that helps users assess their interests and abilities, among other features. The new video includes a closed captioning option, so it's accessible to those with hearing impairments. Watch it now at [www.CareerBridge.wa.gov](http://www.CareerBridge.wa.gov).

### **NEW WORKSOURCE SITE TO GET NEW NAME**

When the new WorkSource website launches this fall it will have a brand new name: WorkSourceWA.com. The decision to change the URL from go2worksource.com was made by the state's 12 Workforce Development Councils and the Employment Security Department. The new name freshens the brand and differentiates it from WorkSource sites in Oregon and California. <http://go2worksourcenews.com/2015/05/13/new-worksource-website-url-announced/>

### **LUMINA FOUNDATION DETAILS DEGREE ATTAINMENT AT NATIONAL, STATE, AND COUNTY LEVELS**

The Lumina Foundation has issued its annual progress report on degree attainment, "A Stronger Nation through Higher Education," which expresses a goal of having 60 percent of Americans obtain a high-quality postsecondary credential by 2025. See how Washington fared at: <http://strongernation.luminafoundation.org/report/#washington>

### **SPOKANE'S NEXT GENERATION ZONE RECEIVES 2015 CHASE YOUTH COMMISSION AWARD**

The Next Generation Zone has been selected to receive the 2015 Chase Youth Commission's Champion of Youth Award. Next Generation's career center is focused on young adults aged 16-24. It was created in 2007 by the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council to help young people better prepare for careers through career assessments and counseling, job search assistance, industry-recognized credentials, and connections to employers. <http://www.wdcspokane.com/news/press-releases/next-generation-zone-receives-2015-chase-youth-commissions-award/>

## May 1, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD RECEIVES FUNDING TO HELP WITH WIOA PLANNING PROCESS**

The Workforce Board voted yesterday to receive one-time federal funding to help with planning the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Board members voted unanimously to apply \$507,000 toward this process, which includes staffing and organizing committee and taskforce meetings, coordinating a series of public forums, and writing a state strategic plan, among other duties. The Board also approved distributing

another \$507,000 among the 12 regional Workforce Development Councils, which are responsible for local-level planning. More meeting details at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/April2015agenda.asp>

### **SPEAKING OF WHICH...WORKFORCE BOARD TO HIRE ADMIN ASSISTANT FOR WIOA PLANNING**

Do you thrive on deadlines, have an eye for detail, and possess seriously strong organizational skills? The Workforce Board is hiring a project-based administrative assistant to help with multiple committees and task forces as part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. But you better apply soon! Closing deadline is May 6. <http://wtb.wa.gov/EmploymentOpportunities.asp>

### **WASHINGTON BUSINESS WEEK SEEKS JUDGES AND COMPANY ADVISORS**

Washington Business Week, a weeklong summer program that connects high school students with industry professionals in a simulated business experience at four Washington college campuses, is seeking volunteers to serve as judges and company advisors. Judges spend several hours evaluating "stockholder presentations" and invest "venture capital" with young entrepreneurs. Company advisors spend six days with a team of 10-12 students, helping them with critical thinking and providing feedback on their team's mission. More at: <http://www.wbw.org/Volunteer.aspx>

### **COMMUNITY/TECHNICAL COLLEGE STAFF HONORED FOR OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCE RESEARCH**

The Open Education Consortium recently recognized Boyoung Chae and Mark Jenkins of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges for their research into how faculty use freely available open educational resources. Chae and Jenkins categorized the benefits and challenges of using open resources and also summarized faculty responses about the support needed to adopt them. Chae is SBCTC's eLearning and Open Education policy associate and Jenkins is SBCTC's eLearning director. [http://sbctc.edu/general/\\_n-newsarchive\\_2015.aspx](http://sbctc.edu/general/_n-newsarchive_2015.aspx)

### **SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED WIOA REGULATIONS BY MONDAY**

The Workforce Board is working with the state's Employment Security Department to catalogue feedback on proposed Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act rules. The goal is to identify places that will help develop a statewide response that represents Washington's workforce system and its particular opportunities and challenges. Don't delay! Comments are due Monday, May 4. <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/WIOAProposedRules.asp>

## **April 21, 2015**

### **NEW CALENDAR PROVIDES DIRECT CONNECTION TO WIOA MEETING DATES, TIMES**

The Workforce Board has launched a new calendar to provide a monthly look at the many meetings scheduled for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) committees and task forces. Click the link or the calendar icon to see what's going on (along with where and when) in the months ahead!

<http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD HOSTS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING APRIL 30**

The Workforce Board will hold a special phone-in board meeting Thursday, April 30 from 2-4 p.m. The main agenda item is funding for planning required to implement the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. More details to come. [http://www.wtb.wa.gov/AboutUs\\_Meetings.asp](http://www.wtb.wa.gov/AboutUs_Meetings.asp)

### **AWC MAGAZINE FEATURES WIOA ARTICLE BY WORKFORCE BOARD CHAIR ZEHNDER**

The latest edition of Cityvision, a bimonthly magazine from the Association of Washington Cities, features an article penned by Workforce Board Chair Cindy Zehnder titled "Winning with WIOA." She invites cities to get involved with the planning process to help "local citizens build skills, fill the jobs of local employers, and

position their communities for future growth." Read the article in the "CityWise" section at:

<https://www.awcnet.org/resourcesresearch/Publications/Cityvisioncurrentissue.aspx>

### **MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY GROUP (MTAG) HOSTS MAY WORKSHOP FOR CAREER ADVISORS**

The Manufacturing Technology Advisory Group (MTAG) is hosting "Career Connections: Preparing Students to Work in a Diverse Manufacturing Workplace" from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 5 at Edmonds Community College. It's among a series of workshops aimed at K-12 career advisors from around Puget Sound. Register at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/career-connections-tickets-16129970175?ref=ebtnebreg>

### **LYON TAPPED TO BE NEW PRESIDENT/CENTER DIRECTOR OF IMPACT WASHINGTON**

Loren Lyon is the new president and center director of Impact Washington, succeeding John Vicklund who retired after filling the role for 12 years. Lyon has held senior management positions at a variety of manufacturing organizations. Impact Washington is a not-for-profit organization based in Mukilteo that helps Washington manufacturers through consulting, training programs, and other resources. More about Lyon at: <http://impactwashington.org/spotlight-loren-lyon>

## **April 8, 2015**

### **WORKFORCE BOARD SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED WIOA RULES**

The U.S. Department of Labor has issued proposed rules for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for public comment. But you'll need your reading glasses--there are five separate notices totaling 2,600 pages! You can respond directly to the Labor Department. Or you can send your feedback to the Workforce Board. Board staff will review all submitted comments. The Board will then develop a consolidated set of recommendations from our state. View proposed rules and email the Workforce Board at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **SPOKANE AREA WDC ANNOUNCES PASSPORT TO CAREER SUCCESS FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

The Spokane Area Workforce Development Council has released a new downloadable multimedia tool for young adults to explore careers. This free tool, called Passport to Career Success, is designed to help young adults and educators develop career plans, learn about the local labor market, and prepare for postsecondary education and training. Persistently high youth unemployment rates prompted the creation of this tool. More at: <http://www.wdcspokane.com/wdc/passport-to-career-success/>

### **WASHINGTON'S LARGEST JOB FAIR FOR YOUNG ADULTS KICKS OFF NEXT WEEK IN TACOMA**

JobFest, the state's largest job fair for young adults, is set for Tuesday, April 14 from 2-5 p.m. at the STAR Center in Tacoma. Over 500 jobseekers ages 16-24 are pre-registered for the event and over 54 businesses and organizations are participating. The event provides young adults with an opportunity to explore careers and connect with local employers. JobFest is sponsored by Workforce Central and supported by a wide array of organizations and businesses. More info at: <http://bit.ly/1GpZPVO>

### **COLLEGE BOUND H.S. GRAD RATE OVER 10 POINTS HIGHER THAN LOW-INCOME STUDENT RATE**

Three quarters of the students who signed up for the College Bound Scholarship by the end of their 8th grade year in 2010 graduated from high school in 2014. That's according to the Washington Student Achievement Council, which recently released an update on this growing program that helps low-income students pay for college. In comparison, the graduation rate for other low-income students who were eligible for the program but didn't sign up was 62 percent. Read more at WSAC's news release page: <http://1.usa.gov/1Jpouly>

## **REGISTRATION OPENS FOR WA-ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE**

The Washington Association for Career and Technical Education's summer conference is set for Aug. 9-12 in Yakima. Registration is open and advance rates are available through July 31. The Workforce Board is a sponsor of this annual event which brings together CTE teachers from around the state to learn best practices, further their professional development, and network with one another before the school year starts. More at: <http://wa-acte.org/confsummer.php>

## **March 19, 2015**

### **WIOA BUTTON: CLICK IT OR TICKET!**

Ok, we're not really going to write you a ticket if you don't click our newly revamped Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) button. But we really want you to click it to get all the info about the new act and the planning process that's underway. Check out the shiny red-white-and-blue button on the Workforce Board's home page at [www.wtb.wa.gov](http://www.wtb.wa.gov)

### **CAREER BRIDGE UPDATED WITH FRESH LABOR MARKET INFO**

Wondering how fast a particular occupation is growing in our state and how much you're likely to earn if you land a job in a certain field? Get the latest labor market data on starting and average wages, along with projected openings for hundreds of occupations in Washington, on [www.CareerBridge.wa.gov](http://www.CareerBridge.wa.gov). The site, created and administered by the Workforce Board, was recently updated with fresh data from the state's Employment Security Department. Click on the View Job Trends section and see which occupations are hot, and which are not.

### **NEW VIDEO SHOWS HOW VETERANS GET HELP TRANSITIONING TO CIVILIAN JOBS**

A new video shows how the Camo2Commerce program is helping transitioning military service members from Joint Base Lewis-McChord land civilian jobs. The program, funded by a National Emergency Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, is a joint project of the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council and Workforce Central. This program provides one-on-one career counseling, business outreach, and a range of other services as the base downsizes over the next few years. See the video and get more details at: <http://www.pacmtn.org/camo-2-commerce/>

### **WORKSHOPS SHOW YOU HOW TO BECOME A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

The Washington State School Directors' Association is holding a series of workshops throughout the state to encourage citizens to learn about and consider school board service, ahead of the May 12 filing week. The free two-hour workshops provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of a school board member and how to file to become a candidate. <http://wssda.org/Events/Workshops.aspx>

### **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE SEEKS CANDIDATES FROM WIDE RANGE OF BACKGROUNDS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

The Governor's Office is actively seeking citizens with talent, skills and experience, especially those from diverse backgrounds, to serve on boards and commissions throughout the state. (See School Boards item above.) There are openings and upcoming vacancies on a wide range of boards and commissions. View "Upcoming Appointments-2015" on the Boards and Commission webpage: <http://www.governor.wa.gov/boards-commissions/board-and-commissions/apply-serve-board-or-commission-0>

## March 6, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD MEETS MARCH 12 TO DISCUSS PROGRESS ON WIOA**

The Workforce Board will hear an update on March 12 about progress made in planning for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which updates the Workforce Investment Act and brings greater accountability and coordination among a wide range of workforce and education programs. Also on the agenda is a presentation on Washington's Eligible Training Provider List, which requires eligible training programs to meet employment, earnings, and completion rate thresholds determined by the Board. More details: <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/March2015agenda.asp>

### **SPEAKING OF WIOA...NEW FLOW CHART HELPS ILLUSTRATE PROCESS**

A new graphic on the Workforce Board's main Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act web page gives a good overview of the committee structure and planning process currently underway. Take a peek at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **UNTAPPED TALENT: THE LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED**

Marlena Sessions, CEO of the Seattle-King County Workforce Development Council, wrote in the U.S. Department of Labor Blog about the need to address the large number of people who continue to be jobless even as the economy recovers from the Great Recession. Sessions writes about a new job club model in the Seattle King-County region called Back2WorkNow that helps repackage the skill sets of the long-term unemployed and connects them to career counseling, resume assistance and job interview practice. <https://blog.dol.gov/2015/02/20/untapped-talent-the-long-term-unemployed/>

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE NEARS FOR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARSHIP FOR FOSTER YOUTH**

Foster youth are encouraged to apply for a scholarship that helps pay for their college education at a Washington public or independent college or university. The deadline is Monday, March 9. Award amounts range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 and can be accessed for up to five years. Apply at <https://www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/wa/students/governors-application>

### **UW NURSING CAMP REACHES OUT TO UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

The University of Washington School of Nursing and UW Medical Center are recruiting minority and underrepresented high school sophomores and juniors to attend a free, weeklong day camp this summer. The camp runs from July 20-24. Students receive CPR training, spend a few days in actual clinical experiences, and also attend specialized sessions and workshops to prepare them for college and the nursing profession. Deadline to apply is April 15. Find out more at <http://nursing.uw.edu/about/uw-nurse-camp>

## February 19, 2015

### **US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUES NEW GUIDANCE ON WIOA**

The U.S. Department of Labor is offering a high-level set of recommendations for states as they move toward implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). More at [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=7353](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=7353). View our state's progress in planning WIOA implementation at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **COLLEGE SPARK WASHINGTON INVESTS \$12 MILLION IN MATH INITIATIVE**

College Spark Washington is investing in a new College-Ready Math Initiative to help low-income students graduate high school with strong math skills and avoid remediation in college. The \$12 million investment, spread over seven years, is designed to help 11th grade students improve their scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, which measures Common Core State Standards. Grants are also helping students successfully

complete Algebra I. View grant recipients  
at: <http://www.collegespark.org/page/133/2015+AYD+and+IA+Grantees>

### **STATE PROGRAM HELPS BUSINESS OWNERS HIRE AND PAY FOR TRAINEES**

Employment Security Department staff are promoting the On-The-Job Training Program through WorkSource, the state's one-stop career center system. Employers can connect with motivated job candidates and be partially reimbursed for wages, if they agree to hire and teach workers the necessary skills to do the job. Reimbursements depend on the type of job and the extent of training needed. WorkSource staff are available for ongoing consultation during the training period.

More at: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/Main/SmallBusiness/News/2015-02.asp#story3>

### **NEW WEBSITE SHOWS EARNINGS FOR WA GRADUATES EMPLOYED IN OUR STATE**

A new website from the Education Research and Data Center displays earnings of students completing certificates and degrees from Washington's public schools and universities, and for those completing apprenticeship programs in Washington. The data is centered on those employed in Washington, work all four quarters in a calendar year, and whose annual earnings are at least \$14,000, or roughly 75 percent of full-time hours at Washington's minimum wage. More at: <http://www.erdcddata.wa.gov/esm.aspx>

### **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFERS WEBINAR ON AID FOR REGISTERED APPRENTICES**

A March 3 webinar from the U.S. Department of Education explains how federal Pell Grants, Work Study and the Job Location and Development Program can be used to support apprentices. Register at

<https://www.workforce3one.org/view/5001503655421369544/info>

## **February 12, 2015**

### **NEW LOGO HELPS CONNECT STAKEHOLDERS TO WIOA PLANNING PROCESS**

The Workforce Board's home page is sporting a new logo aimed at helping those interested in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act get more information about this historic, bipartisan act. Be sure to check out the red-white-and-blue WIOA Washington logo on the left side of our home page. Click on the logo and you'll be connected to our WIOA Washington web pages, **where you'll find meeting information, summaries of the act, and other resources.** <http://wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **NEW WORKFORCE EDUCATION DIRECTOR JOINS STATE BOARD**

Nancy Dick is the new director of workforce education for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. Previously, Dick worked at Lake Washington Institute of Technology, where she served as a faculty member, program director and instructional dean. She developed and taught programs in multimedia and digital design, including the college's first applied bachelor's degree program. Dick succeeds Jim Crabbe who spent 15 years with the agency.

### **LEGISLATIVE PAGES ACTIVE AS 2015 SESSION MOVES AHEAD**

The Workforce Board regularly updates our legislative pages, posting legislation and committee activities of interest to the workforce development community. We also post presentations and TVW links of key meetings. <http://wtb.wa.gov/LegislativeUpdates.asp>

### **OSPI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF CAREER GUIDANCE WA AWARDS**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has awarded a select group of Washington middle and high schools a Career Guidance Award of Excellence for demonstrating outstanding high standards in school-wide career-and-college readiness, using Career Guidance WA as part of their program.

See: <http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/CGAwards.aspx>



## **WORKFORCE BOARD STAFF TRANSITIONS**

New with the Workforce Board staff: Eric Wolf, Workforce Program and Policy Analyst. Previously, Wolf advised members of the Washington State Senate's education committees as nonpartisan legal counsel, and has a background in workforce training, K-12, private career schools, and military veteran student issues. He is helping organize committee meetings for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, overseen by the Workforce Board. He is also helping with legislative work during the 2015 session. Wolf is assisting Nova Gattman, who was recently promoted to the role of Legislative Director. Also new to the Workforce Board is Kamala Andrews, who serves as front receptionist and provides administrative support to the Private Career School/Consumer Protection Unit.

## **January 29, 2015**

### **WORKFORCE BOARD YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT REPORT OUTLINES RISKS TO NEW GENERATION**

A new report from the Workforce Board on the high rates of unemployment among Washington youth shows that despite an improving economy, young people need direction in choosing, pursuing, and preparing for high-wage, high-demand careers or risk a lifetime of lower earnings and a higher likelihood of joblessness.

<http://wtb.wa.gov/Documents/YouthEmploymentReport2014.pdf>

### **NEW CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION REPORT NOW ONLINE**

The new Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) that provides details on how Washington's secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs were implemented and assessed under the federal Carl D. Perkins Act is now available. The Workforce Board oversees funding received through the Act, an annual multimillion dollar grant that helps educators better prepare students for the workplace. The Workforce Board compiles the annual report with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. More at: [http://wtb.wa.gov/Policy\\_Fed\\_Perkins.asp](http://wtb.wa.gov/Policy_Fed_Perkins.asp)

### **WORKSOURCE SEEKS TESTERS FOR NEW JOB MATCH SYSTEM POWERED BY MONSTER**

The WorkSource Integrated Technology team is looking for 50 to 75 WorkSource professionals to test a new job matching and workforce program reporting system as it's being built, and again prior to implementation. It's part of a nine-month project to replace the WorkSource website (Go2WorkSource.com) and case management system (SKIES). The new system will need several user test periods throughout the project. It's being developed by Monster.com, which operates employment websites in the U.S. and internationally. More at:

<http://go2worksourcenews.com/>

### **YOUTH APPS CHALLENGE OPEN TO WASHINGTON STUDENTS**

The Technology Alliance's Youth Apps Challenge offers Washington middle and high school students the chance to design and build apps for tablets and smartphones. Teams of up to five students are eligible to participate, with prizes that include tablets and visits to local technology companies. Submissions will be accepted online from April 1 to April 10. Interested in teaching about apps? The Technology Alliance will offer training to teachers on February 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Seattle. More: <http://technology-alliance.com/stemchallenge/youthapps.html>

### **WORKFORCE BOARD HIRING RESEARCH INVESTIGATOR**

Do you have a background in research and analysis? Check out this new position at the Workforce Board. But don't wait! The application deadline is this Saturday. <http://wtb.wa.gov/EmploymentOpportunities.asp>

## January 22, 2015

### **WORKFORCE BOARD TO DISCUSS WIOA PLANNING NEXT WEEK**

The Workforce Board will hold a meeting via conference call Thursday, January 29 to discuss progress made in developing a plan and gathering input to implement the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The Board will also receive an overview of the 2015 Legislative session and take action on preliminary designations of workforce areas. More at: <http://wtb.wa.gov/January2015agenda.asp>

### **WORKFORCE TRAINING RESULTS REPORT AVAILABLE NOW**

The 2015 edition tracks the results of 12 of our state's largest workforce programs and identifies potential improvements (along with those that are already underway). Find out how many participants got jobs, how much they earned, whether employers were satisfied with worker training, and more. Want more performance details? Individual chapters for each program are online. Order a printed copy of the executive summary and review chapters at <http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceTrainingResults.asp>

### **WASHINGTON CENTER FOR NURSING RELEASES NEW CAREER VIDEO**

Middle school students can learn more about the field of nursing from a video created by the Washington Center for Nursing. The video, which is also aimed at school counselors and students' families, helps students explore their future in nursing and shows the steps they need to take in middle school and beyond to prepare for this key healthcare career. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbxPdrT3FkE>

### **WASHINGTON STATE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE TO STEM AND HEALTHCARE MAJORS**

The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship application is open to middle- and low-income students pursuing eligible high-demand science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) or healthcare majors, and who meet other eligibility criteria. The scholarship pays up to \$22,500 and is administered by the College Success Foundation. Application deadline is March 2. More at: <http://www.waopportunitiescholarship.org/scholarship/overview>

### **WAVA SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN**

WAVA, an association of career and technical education directors and administrators, is holding a spring conference at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound, Feb. 23-24. More at: <http://www.wava-wa.org/>

## January 8, 2015

### **NEW WORKFORCE SYSTEM POSTER AVAILABLE NOW**

The Workforce Board's popular workforce system poster is freshly updated and ready for 2015. Make sure to order copies of this handy overview of Washington's workforce training system, including participant employment rates and earnings, federal and state funding totals, and a listing of administering agencies and providers. The poster is free and perfect for cubicle and office walls:

<http://wtb.wa.gov/WorkforceDevelopmentDirectory.asp>

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WISE TAPPED FOR FEDERAL COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON EMPLOYMENT AND DISABILITIES**

Cesilee Coulson, executive director of the Washington Initiative for Supported Employment (WISE) has been appointed to a new national advisory committee on Increasing Competitive Integrated Employment for Individuals with Disabilities. The new committee, created by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), will advise the U.S. Secretary of Labor on ways to increase integrated employment opportunities. Integrated employment refers to jobs held by people with disabilities in workplace settings where the majority

of employees do not have disabilities. More  
at: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/odep/ODEP20142331.htm>

### **ANNUAL HEALTHCARE REPORT SHOWS PROGRESS, CHALLENGES IN TRAINING SUFFICIENT WORKFORCE**

A new report from the state's Health Workforce Council provides solid data on the number of healthcare workers being trained in Washington and the growing demand for healthcare services as more people gain health insurance and the population ages. This detailed assessment of Washington's healthcare system includes a look at key healthcare occupations, tallying the current supply of trained workers against projected demand. The report also includes recommendations to the Legislature for growing training opportunities and increasing placements, particularly in rural, underserved parts of the state. The Workforce Board staffs the Health Workforce Council. Read the report and view the index of health program completions at: <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/HCTFIntro.asp>

### **WIOA REGULATIONS DELAYED UNTIL SPRING**

The U.S. Department of Labor has delayed the release of draft regulations for implementing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) until later this spring. Originally, the Labor Department had expected to release regulations later this month. The regulations are eagerly awaited as many provisions of this far-reaching federal workforce act are scheduled to go into effect July 1, 2015. Read more about the delay, and about the progress being made in Washington as our state moves forward with developing a plan and gathering input at <http://www.wtb.wa.gov/WIOA.asp>

### **AEROSPACE AND MANUFACTURING PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SET TO START IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

The Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC) and Workforce Snohomish are offering a free, 10-week Manufacturing Academy designed to provide individuals interested in applying for entry-level jobs in aerospace and manufacturing with needed technical, hands-on training, certifications, and soft skills. The first class starts January 12. An open house runs today at WorkSource Monroe. More at: <http://www.ajactraining.org/apprenticeship/manufacturing-pre-apprenticeship/>