

Workforce Economic Recovery Plan Recommendations

Create an Economic Recovery Ecosystem

- Re-imagine services to support community-level economic vitality & resiliency.
- Create holistic, multi-service strategies for individuals, families, and businesses.
- Collective planning and data-sharing to inform better, more comprehensive service plans.

Define and Measure Progress Towards Inclusive Economic Recovery

- Establish new data markers on community-level and individual-level economic health.
- Define economic self-sufficiency and the factors that influence economic resiliency.
- Disaggregate data reporting with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Track employment turn-over and prevent the growth of long-term unemployed.

Leverage, Expand Capacity and Expertise of Postsecondary Systems

- Create a living “map” of high-demand, livable wage occupational pathways and the relevant education and training resources available; keep it updated!
- Improve remote learning delivery and preparation.
- Create flexible occupational pathways to prepare education providers.
- Ensure every student has the necessary resources to obtain an economically meaningful credential, in their chosen program of study.
- Re-imagine credentialing systems that value learning, regardless of where learning occurs.
- Establish a competency-based taxonomy for both credentials and jobs.

Creating Navigable Pathways to In-Demand Careers

- Support expansion of registered apprenticeship, including to new industry sectors.
- Create structured, navigable pathways to better wages for front-line care workers.
- Establish a standardized system of competency-based credential crosswalks and credit for prior learning.

Reengineer Pathways to IT-Based Careers

- Map IT and IT-adjacent occupations across the state, and across all industry sectors, and assess all available education and training resources and credentials. Fill gaps found in the mapping process.
- Establish computer recycling programs that train individuals to build, refurbish, maintain, and upgrade computers.
- Create an IT Service Corps within the Washington Service Corps to provide paid, real-world experience and IT services to under-resourced communities.

Strengthening the Health Workforce Pipeline

- New career pathway programs, including LPN registered apprenticeship for CNAs in long-term care settings.
- Career development for diverse populations, including front-line health workers and tribal members for healthcare jobs.
- Develop a health jobs portal to enable job seekers to quickly find available opportunities and streamline the process of moving between facilities.

Strengthening Pathways to Entrepreneurship and Business Ownership

- Entrepreneurial training: emphasis on business planning and operations.
- Support opportunities for local business transfer and employee ownership, including re-establishing the Office of Employee Ownership.
- Support infrastructure for new entrepreneurs, contractors, and business owners.