

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022, from 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

In-Person Meeting

Michigan Works! Southwest Service Center
1601 S. Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Note: Members must attend in-person to participate in voting.

Public Access is available at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89742285370?pwd=bkZYY211SkVxYmNRd3RiRzQvaHI2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 897 4228 5370 Passcode: 359106

Or Dial US Toll Free: 877 853 5257; 888 475 4499; 833 548 0276; or 833 548 0282

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS | Frank Tecumseh, Chair |
| II. SHINING STAR AWARD | Jakki Bungart-Bibb |
| III. TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY OF WDB DECISIONS | Kathy Olsen |
| IV. CITIZENS TIME | |
| V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES <i>(Vote Required)</i> | |
| A. WDB May 19, 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes <i>(Exhibit A)</i> | |
| VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS | |
| A. Monitoring Committee <i>(Exhibit B)</i> | Jackie Murray |
| B. DART Committee | Hank Bostic/Katy Olsen |
| VII. NEW BUSINESS | |
| A. WDB Plans <i>(Vote Required)</i> | Amy Meyers |
| 1. WIOA Local and Regional Plans <i>(Exhibit C)</i> | |
| 2. Infrastructure Funding Agreement <i>(Exhibit D)</i> | |
| B. County Contract <i>(Vote Required)</i> <i>(Exhibit E & E1)</i> | Amy Meyers |
| C. WDB Policies <i>(Vote Required)</i> <i>(Exhibit F)</i> | Kathy Olsen |
| 1. WDB Policy 13 Rev 07 – ITA System <i>(Exhibit F1)</i> | |
| VIII. STAFF REPORTS | |
| A. Business Services Update & Labor Market Info Update <i>(Exhibit G)</i> | Ashley Iovieno |
| B. Operations Update | Jakki Bungart-Bibb |
| C. Directors Report <i>(Exhibit H)</i> | Jakki Bungart-Bibb |

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. CITIZENS' TIME

XI. MEMBERS' TIME

XII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- A. Executive Committee – Thurs, July 21, 2022, from 9:00-10:30 am
tentatively scheduled to be held at Upjohn Institute, 300 S Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI
- B. Full Workforce Development Board – Thurs, September 15, 2022, from 9:00-10:30 am
location TBD
- C. Monitoring & Evaluation Committee –Tues, June 28, 2022, from 8:00-9:30 am
at Michigan Works! Service Center, 1601 S Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, MI
- D. Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) – Mon, September 19 2022, from 1:00-3:00 pm, Location
TBD
- E. Disability Awareness Resource Team (DART) Committee – Tues, September 13, 2022, from 2:00-4:00
pm, Virtual Meeting

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Frank Tecumseh, Chair

**Workforce Development Board
 Meeting Minutes
 May 19, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: Workforce Development Board Chair, Frank Tecumseh, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the WMed Innovation Center, 4717 Campus Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

Attendees introduced themselves and Kathy Olsen introduced individuals who were attending virtually.

WDB Members Present:

Jill Bland (Econ Dev)	Randall Hazelbaker (PS)*	Jose Orozco/Charles Rose (CBO)
Kathi Cain-Babbitt,	Jared Hoffmaster (PS)	Mike Quinn (PS)
alt for Willcutt (Labor)	Kris Jenkins (Educ)*	Frank Tecumseh (PS)*
John Fiore (MRS)	Dave Maurer (PS)*	* Exec Committee
Lisa Godfrey (PS)*	Brian O'Donnell (Labor)	^ Attended Virtually

WDB Members Absent

Trevor Bidelman (Labor)	Derek King (PS)	David Sutherland (PS)
Karen Doubleday (DHHS)	Monteze Morales (Educ)	Elizabeth VanDusen (PS)
Dan Dunn (PS)*	Jackie Murray (PS)*	Ken Willcutt (Labor)
Jessica Eyster (PS)	Chantel Paxton (PS)	Angila Wilson (PS)
Lisa Johansen (DOC)	Windy Rea (Job Corps)	* Exec Committee

Center for Workforce Innovation and Solutions / Michigan Works! / Upjohn Institute Staff Present:

Jakki Bungart- Bibb	Ashley Iovieno	Amanda Rosenberg ^
Ben Damerow	Amy Meyers	
Aseel Hussein ^	Kathy Olsen	

Michigan Works! Services / Program Staff Present:

Paige Daniels (YOU/KRESA)	Julie Klein (Special Initiatives)	Amanda Sutherland (YOU/KRESA)
Sam Dougherty (WDI)	Stefanie Peters (YOU/KRESA)	Mark Waurio (PATH/WEUI)
Blaine Farr (WDI)	Eric Stewart (KRESA)	

Guests Present:

Jim Berry (SJCISD)	Bob Kennedy (Vestaron)	Paul Watson (KCC)
Sandra Cochrane (WMed)	Don Reid (USA Today Network) ^	
Madonna Jackson (GOCC)^	Rep. Julie Rogers/legislative staff ^	

SHINING STAR AWARD

Jakki Bungart-Bibb recognized two shining stars this month. She reported that the Shining Star Award celebrates dedicated and outstanding employees within the Michigan Works! network who work tirelessly to serve customers. The March Shining Star Award was presented to Julie Klein. She reported Julie has over 25 years of workforce development experience serving in various roles in the Michigan Works! network, including the adult and dislocated worker program, PATH, EDGE, and many more. Julie most recently has been working with the Neighborhood Employment Hubs serving as a business services resource and a career coach for students enrolled in the iACT training program. Her focus is getting the students connected to employers as soon as their training

is complete. Her nomination stated, “Julie is always willing to go above and beyond to help job seekers and employers. She is truly passionate about this work, and it shows in everything she does.”

The April Shining Star Award was presented to Stefanie Peters. Ms. Bibb reported Stefanie has 13 years of workforce development experience also working in various roles within the Michigan Works! network, including the WIOA Youth Services Program and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. Her current role is TAA Manager. Her nomination stated, “Stefanie is a walking encyclopedia of knowledge when it comes to the laws, rules, and regulations of TAA. She loves to share her knowledge with her team, as well as elevate them to be the best they can be.”

Ms. Bibb expressed congratulations on behalf of staff and the Board to both awardees and WDB chair, Frank Tecumseh presented them with certificates of recognition.

PROGRAM

Jill Bland introduced Sandra Cochrane, Assistant Dean of the WMed Innovation Center, and Bob Kennedy, Chief Scientific Officer for Vestaron. Ms. Cochrane provided information about the history of the Innovation Center. She reported the incubator is part of the Kalamazoo Smart Zone, which serves the Kalamazoo region and that it is also ranked number two (2) of Smart Zones in Michigan using the [MiSTEM Forward](#) for student internships. The Innovation Center has served more than one hundred companies and the success rate of client companies exceeds 80-85%. Mr. Kennedy provided information about Vestaron, Inc., one of the companies housed at the Innovation Center. He reported that Vestaron develops and markets safe and effective bioinsecticides derived from naturally occurring peptides found in spider venom. His presentation also included information about the history of Vestaron and its growth.

TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY OF WDB DECISIONS

Annual Conflict of Interest Form (Exhibit A) – Kathy Olsen reported State and local policy requires Workforce Development Board members to annually declare that they do not have a conflict of interest. She included the form in the agenda packet as Exhibit A and extra copies were also available on the table at the entrance to the meeting room. She requested that each member complete and sign a form and return it to her as soon as possible.

Kathy Olsen asked members present if there were any items on the agenda requiring a vote for which a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest exists; and if so, the conflict should be declared at this time. There were none.

CITIZENS' TIME

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WDB Executive Committee March 17, 2022, Meeting Minutes (*Exhibit B*)

Motion made by Dave Maurer and supported by John Fiore to approve the March 17, 2022, Workforce Development Board Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CEAC Report

Kris Jenkins reported Lee Adams from the Upjohn Institute presented an economic forecast on industries and jobs at the CEAC meeting held earlier this week. The MiSTEM regional director shared multiple professional development opportunities for staff that are scheduled during the summer months and announced that MiSTEM is piloting a trades program in Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, and Hastings. This pilot trades program is a partnership with the Michigan Building Trades. Adult Education reported that enrollments are back to near what they were prior to COVID-19. The MiCareerQuest™ event returned to an in-person event and was held on Tuesday and

Wednesday of this week at the Kalamazoo Expo Center. MiCareerQuest™ is a two-day event for eighth grade students in Kalamazoo and Calhoun Counties. She further reported that Kalamazoo RESA is deep in design development for the new CTE center and groundbreaking is scheduled for September. CEAC members voted to recommend to the WDB that Jim Berry from St. Joseph County CTE serve as the CEAC Vice-Chair. Kathy Olsen suggested adding the request to approve this appointment to the CEAC appointments listed under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

WDB Announcements

Posting of Local and Regional Plans for 30-day Review and Comment Period – Amy Meyers reported the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) to engage in a regional planning process that results in the development of a WIOA four-year Regional Plan. Michigan Works! Southwest is part of a seven-county area that includes the four counties served by MW! Southwest as well as Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties. WIOA further states that each local WDB is also responsible for developing a Local Plan. The Local Plan serves as a four-year action plan to develop, align, and integrate service delivery strategies and to support the State's vision and strategic and operational goals. These Regional and Local Plans, at a minimum, must be modified at the end of the first two-year period of the four-year plans. This is known as the mid-cycle modification. Both plans are currently posted on the Michigan Works! Southwest website and are subject to a 30-day public review and comment period. Kathy Olsen sent an email earlier this week with the link to the plans and the guidance on submitting comments or questions.

United Way Grant Award - In 2019, Michigan Works! Southwest was awarded multi-year funding (\$25,000/year) from United Way for the Battle Creek Employee Resource Fund. The annual renewal of the funding requires the signature of the WDB Chairperson. This is a partnership between Michigan Works! Southwest, the Calhoun Intermediate School District and the Department of Health and Human Services. The grant funds provide an opportunity for families to receive assistance paying tuition at a high-quality childcare facility, to assist parents in retaining employment or working to obtain employment.

CEAC Appointments (Exhibit C)

Kathy Olsen requested WDB consideration and approval of membership changes to the WDB Career and Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) for Michigan Works! Southwest. The membership changes included:

- The appointment of Dr. Mark Dunneback, Dean for Business & Technical Careers at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), representing post-secondary education, replacing Dr. Tracy Labadie as the alternate member for Dr. Deb Coates. This appointment is for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2020, and which ends September 30, 2022.
- The appointment of Dr. Madonna Jackson, Dean of Academics at Glen Oaks Community College (GOCC), representing post-secondary education, replacing Michael Goldin. Mr. Goldin transitioned to another post-secondary institution in December 2021. This appointment is for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2020, and which ends September 30, 2022.
- The appointment of James Berry, Director of Career Technical Education (CTE) at St. Joseph Intermediate School District, representing CTE, replacing Tommy Cameron who retired at the end of March 2022. This appointment is for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2021, and which ends September 30, 2023.
- Ms. Olsen also requested the approval of James Berry to serve as Vice Chair of the CEAC.

Motion made by Jill Bland and supported by Lisa Godfrey to approve the CEAC appointments of Dr. Mark Dunneback, Dean for Business & Technical Careers at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), representing post-secondary education, as an alternate for Dr. Deb Coates for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2020 and which ends September 30, 2022; Dr. Madonna Jackson, Dean of Academics at Glen Oaks Community College (GOCC), representing post-secondary education for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2020 and which ends September 30, 2022; James Berry, Director of Career Technical Education (CTE) at St. Joseph Intermediate School District, representing CTE for the balance of a term that began October 1, 2021 and which ends September 30, 2023; and the appointment of James Berry to serve as Vice Chair of the CEAC. Motion carried.

WDB Policies (Exhibit D)

WDB Policy 24 Rev 07 – Grievance and Complaint (Exhibit D1) - Kathy Olsen reported changes to WDB Policy 24 Rev 07 “Grievance and Complaint” included adding language to include participants and employer-based training employers in the background section; updating references throughout the policy; and adding language to address an opportunity to resolve complaints informally, the distribution of the EO notice and grievance and complaint procedures to employees and the maintenance of the signed acknowledgement of receipt of EO and grievance and complaint documents. Language was added to address accessibility, language barriers, and the posting of complaint and grievance procedures. The policy outline was reformatted to adjust to these changes.

WDB Policy 25 Rev 04 – Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity (Exhibit D2) - Kathy Olsen reported WDB Policy 25 Rev 04 “Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity” was updated to change the name and phone number for the designated EO officer for Michigan Works! Southwest. Amy Meyers is the designated EO officer, and her phone number is 269-385-0414.

Motion made by Randal Hazelbaker and supported by Michael Quinn to approve WDB Policy 24 Rev 07 Grievance and Complaint and WDB Policy 25 Rev 04 Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity. Motion carried.

Wagner-Peyser Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Exhibits G & H) – Ben Damerow reported on the USDOL Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing Proposed Rule, the history of Wagner-Peyser staffing and the impact that the proposed rule would have on the workforce system. The proposed rule would require states, with no exceptions, to use State merit staff to provide Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) services. In the 1990s, during a time of high unemployment, the US Department of Labor approved limited exemptions from the merit-staffing requirement for three States (Colorado, Massachusetts, and Michigan) during the establishment of the one-stop delivery system to test alternative service-delivery models. In 1991, the State of Michigan sued the USDOL and won which gives MW! the flexibility to braid funding, and since 1998, Kalamazoo RESA has been the subrecipient providing these services. In seeking national consistency, other states have expressed support for the Michigan model, and it is also supported by the National Workforce Association. Mr. Damerow distributed an infographic (Exhibit G) highlighting how this proposed rule would affect Michigan’s job seekers and employers. The infographic also included rationale as to why the proposed rule should not be implemented as well as the impacts the proposed staffing rule would have on Employment Services. Mr. Damerow requested board consideration and approval of a proposed Resolution for the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board (Exhibit H) urging the USDOL to abandon the proposed rule change on Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing (Docket No. ETA-2022-0003) which would require States, with no exceptions, to use State merit staff to provide Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) services. The resolution also urges Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Congressional Delegation to support local control by the Workforce Development Boards and oppose this rule and notify USDOL Secretary that it would have an adverse impact on the Michigan “One Stop” Workforce Development System. As part of the official record, the Resolution is attached to these minutes.

Motion made by Lisa Godfrey and supported by Jill Bland to approve the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board Resolution urging the USDOL to abandon the proposed rules change on Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing (Docket No. ETA-2022-0003) which would require State, with no exceptions, to use State merit staff to provide Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) services. The resolution also urges Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Congressional Delegation to support local control by the Workforce Development Boards and oppose this rule and notify USDOL Secretary that it would have an adverse impact on the Michigan One Stop Workforce Development System. Motion carried.

County Commissioner Mike Quinn offered to also take the Resolution to the Kalamazoo County Board for their approval.

STAFF REPORTS

Business Services Activities

Ashley Iovieno provided an update on the Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) Industry Led Collaborative (ILC), MiCareerQuest™ Southwest, and the Battle Creek Chamber's Business Excellence Awards.

Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) Industry Led Collaborative (ILC) – Ms. Iovieno reported last week Michigan Works! Southwest received notice from the State of Michigan that a Going Pro Talent Fund Industry Led Collaborative (GPTF/ILC) application recently submitted was approved for an award. This ILC group, called the Mid-South Manufacturers Collaborative, features six local employers that partnered to share costs for in-demand trainings with local providers. They are partnering on twelve (12) trainings that include Blueprint Reading, GD&T Fundamentals, and Supervisory Skills. The companies are from across the MW! Southwest service area. Approximately 180 local employees will be trained with this grant award. The award total for the companies in this ILC is \$138,065, with each company award ranging from \$790 to \$49,000. This ILC would not have come together without the leadership of Jackie Murray from Marshall Excelsior. She noted that to apply, there needs to be a lead employer and Jackie stepped into that role with ease. Ms. Iovieno expressed appreciation for Ms. Murray's organizational skills and support throughout the process. She expressed congratulations to Marshall Excelsior and the other five employers on the grant award.

MiCareerQuest™ Southwest – Ms. Iovieno reported the Business Services team is coming off a few busy days as this week MiCareerQuest™ Southwest was held in-person for the first time in two years. This event was held Tuesday and Wednesday this week at the Kalamazoo Expo Center. Over fifty (50) employers displayed what they do for approximately 4,000 eighth graders from Kalamazoo, Calhoun, and Cass Counties. This year's event included new additions such as a "Touch a Truck" exhibit that featured large trucks and vehicles used in everyday jobs. The rooms inside the Expo Center were split up to increase student exploration and to help with COVID safety. This event was made possible by the partnerships of KRESA, Calhoun Area Career Center, Southwest Michigan First and Michigan Works! Southwest as well as the amazing local employers who were willing and able to highlight what they do.

Battle Creek Chamber's Business Excellence Awards – Ms. Iovieno reported that at last night's Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards, Heather Ignash, Michigan Works! Southwest Business Services Coordinator for Calhoun County, was recognized as a 2022 "Outstanding Woman in Business". Heather also celebrated her one-year work anniversary with Michigan Works! Southwest this week. She noted that Michigan Works! Southwest is proud to have Heather on the team and clearly, she has been making an impact in a short amount of time.

Labor Market Information

Michigan's Labor Market News – Ashley Iovieno reported Michigan's May edition of Labor Market News is now available and will be sent to members following the meeting. Something of note in this edition is that Michigan's seasonally adjusted jobless rate declined significantly by three-tenths of a percentage point over the month from 4.7% to 4.4% for the month of March. This is low by historical standards and the lowest rate since prior to the pandemic. April continues to show a decline dropping to 4.3%. The map of the month features the Percentage of the Michigan Population Under the Poverty Level. Online job ads rose for the third consecutive month with 269,300 total available ads during the month of March. In this edition, the Michigan Unemployment rate was reported to be at 4.4%, the national rate was reported to be at 3.6% and the four counties in the Michigan Works! Southwest service area ranges from 3.5% to 4.7%. This edition also includes highlights from the annual planning information and workforce analysis reports. This information assists with regional and local plans for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Job Demand Dashboard - Ms. Iovieno reported the latest Jobs Demand Dashboard continues to show Registered Nurses at the top, followed by Retail Salespersons, and First Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers. Customer Service and Scheduling are the two highest skills in demand by employers which is in line with what staff are seeing and hearing from local employers.

Burning Glass Analytics and Real Time Jobs Data (Exhibit E) - In addition to the verbal report, the website link to the labor market reports generated from Burning Glass Analytics and Real Time Jobs Data that identified top detailed occupations, skills greatest in demand, and employers with the most job openings in Prosperity Region 8, Michigan Works! Southwest, and each of the four counties in the MW! Southwest Area for the period March 1, 2022, through April 30, 2022, was included in the meeting notice.

Operations Update

Ms. Bibb reported all service centers continue to be open to the public offering both virtual and in person services, and there was a slight decrease of individuals visiting the centers in April compared to March. Staff are looking forward to a recent change in the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) process that may help increase the traffic and bring in more available talent. This program refers unemployment insurance applicants who are most likely to exhaust their unemployment benefits or to be long-term unemployed to Michigan Works! for individualized reemployment services. This program focuses on reducing time on unemployment insurance and serves as an entry point to other workforce opportunities. In the past, MW! Southwest has received 20-25 percent of the eligible applicant referrals. Recently, Michigan Works! leadership worked with the Unemployment Insurance and Workforce Development Agencies to discuss options to increase the number of RESEA referrals as a statewide effort to serve more eligible individuals. All parties agreed to move forward with increasing referrals to all eligible applicants beginning May 23, 2022.

Director's Report (Exhibit F)

The Director's report (Exhibit F) was distributed at the meeting. Jakki Bungart- Bibb reported at the beginning of May, M-Live published an article related to the Clean Slate Law. This article highlights a couple of studies that show people with convictions face higher unemployment rates. It also showed that those employed who can get their records expunged saw their wages increase by 23%. The article also mentions the Michigan Works! Clean Slate program and states that Michigan Works! has provided services to 20,000 people statewide since the Clean Slate Law went into effect. The link to the article was included in the Director's report that was emailed to members following the meeting.

The Director's Report also included information about the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Wagner Peyser which was covered earlier in the meeting. The information provided was a summary for members to reference.

Lastly, Ms. Bibb reported the house passed the WIOA Reauthorization Bill on May 17, 2022, along with approving bipartisan amendments. Amendments that were not bipartisan were defeated. The next steps for this bill remain unclear as the senate outlook is uncertain. It is unlikely for this to move forward this calendar year.

SERVICE PROVIDERS – SPECIAL PROJECTS

The service providers for Michigan Works! Southwest provided a PowerPoint highlighting special projects that support workforce development programs.

Paige Daniels, representing Kalamazoo RESA, reported on career and talent development initiatives that included career awareness and exploration, work-based learning opportunities, and programs administered under Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU). Core program areas included Career and Technical Education (CTE), Education for the Arts (ERA), and Early/Middle College (EMC), all which provide opportunities to build skill development. She reported the next steps include activities such as career readiness, career coaching, and employment support services through Michigan Works! Southwest; employer and community engagement; and research partnerships. Amanda Sutherland reported on a financial literacy workshop series developed in partnership with Research Policy Associates. She reported the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) requires the Federal Reserve and other federal banking regulators to encourage financial institutions to help meet the credit needs in the communities in which they do business, including low-income and moderate-income neighborhoods. The workshops are held every other Wednesday from 2-3 p.m. and individuals can attend virtually or in-person. The sessions will be recorded and posted on the Michigan Works! Southwest YouTube channel. The desired outcomes for this

initiative are to provide financial literacy opportunities; make connections across a four-county footprint to build long-term financial growth for individuals served; and grow relationships between workforce development and local bank partners. A flyer regarding the Financial Literacy Workshops was distributed at the meeting. She also shared information about the MyCITY 2Gen initiative, a whole family approach to the already established MyCITY program. She reported that MyCITY 2Gen is funded by Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo and plans are to serve two cohorts of ten families each. The program is 7-weeks and will include a blend of adult only, combined virtual, and career coaching sessions. Ms. Daniels shared additional information regarding multiple summer programs that included the already established MyCITY Summer Youth Employment Program, CareerNOW academies, and the MyCITY 2Gen Program. She reported the summer programs are returning to fully in-person for 2022. Ms. Daniels then shared information about the career champions program and noted that during this pilot year there are two levels of participation that includes contributing champions and core champions. She concluded the presentation by sharing information regarding KRESA's new Career Center for which ground will be breaking in the fall. Plans are to use the facility outside of the school day for adult and two-generation approach programming.

Sam Dougherty provided information about the Workforce Development Institute and the programs and services they provide which includes WIOA adult and dislocated worker services. Participants served include unemployed and underemployed job seekers and job seekers who experience layoffs and/or plant closures. Services include professional career coaching and business services. He reported on Access for All, a pre-apprenticeship construction training program that has proven to be successful. Access for All helps to prepare individuals for entry into registered apprenticeship training programs. His presentation included information regarding the recruiting impact on WIOA registrations. He shared a graph displaying the month-to-month growth in registrations for 2022 and credited multiple partners throughout the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek areas who have made referrals.

Mark Waurio reported on special initiatives provided under direct services which included the Battle Creek Employer Resources Fund; Barrier Removal Employment Success (BRES); the Clean Slate Pilot; and the Learn, Earn and Provide (LEAP) Pilot. The Battle Creek Employer Resource Fund supports families with tuition costs at a high-quality childcare facility, to retain employment or if they are working to obtain employment. The BRES program (Barrier Removal Employment Success) provides funding to provide supportive services to remove barriers to employment for at-risk individuals. The focus is on serving individuals who are in the ALICE population (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). The Clean Slate Pilot supports participants with the set-aside conviction application process to remove an eligible criminal conviction. During the past year, two Clean Slate events were held, as well as multiple mini clinics. The LEAP pilot supports non-custodial parents in obtaining/maintaining employment to make on-time child support payments. The LEAP employment rate is at 68% and the hope is that this program will be expanded statewide.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

CITIZENS' TIME

No comments.

MEMBERS' TIME

No comments.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Frank Tecumseh noted a correction to the list of upcoming meetings. The next WDB Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday, June 16, 2022 (not June 15), from 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- The next meeting of the full WDB is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2022, from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Other upcoming committee meetings listed on the agenda included:

- The Monitoring and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2022, from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. at the Michigan Works! Service Center, 1601 S. Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- The Career Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2022, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- The Disability Awareness Resource Team (DART) Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2022, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other reports or business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution for the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board

Kathy Olsen

Date

Frank Tecumseh

Date

Michigan Works! Southwest
Workforce Development Board
Resolution

WHEREAS, the US Department of Labor (USDOL) has published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Wagner-Peyser Act Staffing (Docket No. ETA-2022-0003) which would require States, with no exceptions, to use State merit staff to provide Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) services, and,

WHEREAS, the proposal would reverse current federal policy that allows States maximum flexibility in staffing to provide ES services, and,

WHEREAS, current federal policy has allowed the State of Michigan to use local merit staff employees to deliver ES services through the local network of Michigan Works! Agencies to over 86,000 job seekers in 2021, and,

WHEREAS, our primary concern is the negative impacts of this proposal to Michiganders and the primary customers of the workforce development system – both job seekers and employers, and,

WHEREAS, a key benefit to greater staffing flexibility is strong local strategic relationships with businesses, higher education, nonprofits, childcare, elementary and secondary education, adult education providers, and other partners which allows for more efficient customer service to connect job seekers with in-demand jobs and training opportunities and facilitates a pipeline for those students to local employers, and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board, comprised of business, labor and community leaders, is currently responsible for the effective and efficient delivery of four Michigan Works! American Job Centers in Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and Saint Joseph Counties using approximately 21 local, partial or full time, Employment Services staff, and this rule would take away local control of Employment Services, and

WHEREAS, with this required staffing model, staff and service reductions are inevitable as services currently provided by over 400 Michigan Works! staff would be reduced to approximately 100 State of Michigan staff, resulting in significantly longer wait times for job seekers and delays in services for the 32,000 businesses served annually, and,

WHEREAS, this change would risk potential loss of several of the 99 full and satellite Michigan Works! American Job Centers across the state, and would negatively impact our constituents by decreased assistance filling job openings, reduction and elimination of job fairs, cutting of industry-led collaboratives, and decreased or no access to job training programs, and,


WHEREAS, limiting ES staffing to State staff, would eliminate the advantage of the streamlined current staffing model in Michigan which leverages other program funding from WIOA Title II Adult Education, SNAP, TANF, TAA, and others to supplement the Wagner-Peyser state allocation, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development, hereby urges the USDOL to abandon this proposed rule change, and urges Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Congressional Delegation to support local control by the Workforce Development Boards and oppose this rule and notify the USDOL Secretary that it would have an adverse impact on the Michigan "One Stop" workforce development system,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the U.S. Employment and Training Administration/U.S. Department of Labor, Governor Whitmer, our U.S. Legislators and State Legislators.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned duly qualified Chairperson of the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at its May 19, 2022 Workforce Development Board meeting.



Frank Tecumseh

May 19, 2022
Date

Monitoring Overview

WIOA Youth

Monitoring Highlights

- A sample of 15 (fifteen) participant files were randomly selected for review, including participants engaged in Summer Young Professionals/Young Professionals (SYP/YP), High Concentration Youth, Integrated Education and Training (IET), and Jobs for Michigan Graduates (JMG).
- Files were provided in hard copy format in an organized format with required enrollment, EO and activity documentation.
- Corrective action that was required in last year's report to align internal file management procedures with policy requirements, specifically as it relates to the storage of medical and disability-related information, as outlined in Section 1.1 of the WIOA Manual and Michigan Works! Southwest WDB Policy 31 R03 – Records Management & Destruction was reviewed.
 - Based on the files reviewed, forms have also been updated with consideration given to the placement and necessity of requesting medical/disability related information.
- The enhancement of internal monitoring procedures, specifically as it relates to the accuracy of OSMIS data entry regarding registration paperwork, was identified as an area for continuous improvement in last year's report.
 - Over the course of the last year staff have implemented additional file reviews and updated their staff structure to create a new role dedicated to enhancing and supporting internal monitoring.
 - During this review, discrepancies between the registration paperwork in the file and the information inputted into OSMIS were still noted on a number of files.
- The review of stipend procedures and documentation to align with policy requirements outlined in Michigan Works! Southwest WDB Policy 36 – Stipend Payments to better support and record stipend-related activities was also identified as an area for continuous improvement in last year's monitoring report.
 - YOU staff stated enhanced internal stipend documents were developed and placed in in the participant files to better define the nature of stipend payments along with the topics to be covered during the activity.

- Discussions with YOU management continue to take place to determine best practices for documenting stipend payments.
- In alignment with State policy issuance 21-28, a review of data validation elements was completed for 13 of the files reviewed, resulting in an overall error rate of 38%. All errors have been addressed by program staff to ensure alignment with documentation requirements.
- Four (4) participant interviews took place, many of which had been referred to the program by an acquaintance or through engagement with social media marketing and all spoke very highly of program staff and the support they provide. The majority of the participants interviewed had engaged in some form of work experience through the program, with one participant having engaged in both in-person work experience and the virtual curriculum. This participant felt strongly that the in-person work experience provided more valuable experiences than the virtual option. Individual preferences of virtual or in-person meetings and activities were split across the participants, with some placing value on the flexibility of virtual/remote interactions, while others felt they were more engaged when in-person. The most meaningful aspects of the program were noted as the work experience activities, engagement in an online internship, and program staff. Areas for improvement identified by participants included the allowability of staff to aid in gaining experience hours to obtain their driver's license, and a request to return to primarily in-person interactions.
- Overall operations: Services remain a hybrid of virtual and in person based on the participant's preference. Additionally, strategies have been implemented to achieve registration goals for PY21 including the use of the "Enroll in YOU" interest form which has been implemented to connect to participants in real time and determine eligibility and suitability across programs. PY20 Customer Service Survey results indicated that 100% of respondents reported that they received the support they wanted and that they tell their friends to contact YOU for help. Additionally, the most helpful YOU experiences were identified as career exploration, work-based training and job search assistance.
- Specific to meeting both PY21 registration and measurable skill gains performance metrics which were below target for PY20, YOU staff have begun to review of registration numbers on an ongoing basis with short-term targets identified and reviewed weekly. Creating innovative outreach and recruitment strategies and the strengthening referral pipelines will also be a focus over the next year. Additionally, YOU staff has revised the Lead Career Coach roles to include a focus on continuous improvement which includes regular monitoring of performance, identification of training needs, implementation of regular staff training, and strengthening systems for tracking and follow up on measurable skills gains.

Monitoring Outcomes

- **Corrective Action:** None.
- **Administrative Recommendation:** Due to the continued identification of errors, an Administrative Recommendation is being made for the continued enhancement of internal monitoring procedures, specifically as it relates to the accuracy of OSMIS data entry regarding registration paperwork.
- **Administrative Recommendation:** Based on findings related to Data Validation elements, an administrative recommendation is being made to review Data Validation requirements and acceptable documentation standards and enhance strategies to ensure compliance with documentation requirements.
- **Continuous Improvement:** None.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Four-Year Regional and Local Plans for Program Years (PYs) 2020 through 2023

Policy Issuance: 20-07, change 1

Mid-Cycle Modification

Background

The WIOA Section 106(c) states local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) and Chief Elected Officials (CEOs) are required to engage in a regional planning process that results in the development of a Regional Plan. Further, Section 108(a) states each local WDB is also responsible for developing a Local Plan.

In addition, per the WIOA, states are required to identify planning regions. In Michigan, the Prosperity Regions fulfill this requirement. Further, the WIOA requires the Governor to designate local workforce development areas within the state for the purposes of the WIOA. Planning regions provide an opportunity for local areas to collaborate more formally within the larger regional economy, and per the WIOA Proposed Rules, the purpose of identifying planning regions is to align workforce development activities and resources with larger regional economic development areas and available resources to provide coordinated and efficient services to both jobseekers and employers. Local and regional plans outlining these planning processes are required to be submitted to the State of Michigan.

Michigan Works! Southwest Local Plan

The Michigan Works! Southwest Local Plan serves as a four-year action plan to develop, align, and integrate service delivery strategies and to support the State's vision and strategic and operational goals. The Michigan Works! Southwest Local Plan sets forth the strategy to:

- Direct investments in economic, education, and workforce training programs to focus on providing relevant education and training to ensure that individuals, including youth and individuals with barriers to employment, have the skills to compete in the job market and that employers have a ready supply of skilled workers;
- Apply job-driven strategies in the one-stop system; and
- Enable economic, education, and workforce partners to build a skilled workforce through innovation in, and alignment of, employment, training, and education programs.

The proposed Michigan Works! Southwest Local Plan includes the following required elements:

- The regional analysis prepared as part of the Regional Plan.
- A description of the local board's strategic vision and goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce (including youth and individuals with barriers to employment), including goals relating to performance accountability measures based on primary indicators of performance as described in the WIOA Section 116(b)(2)(A) in order to support regional economic growth and economic self-sufficiency. Expected performance levels may be used to evaluate outcomes until such time as formal performance goals are established. Performance measures are designated as baseline where

it is unlikely that adequate data exists to make a reasonable determination of an expected level of performance. Such designations vary across the core programs.

- WIOA Title I – Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth
 - Employment Second Quarter After Exit
 - Employment Fourth Quarter After Exit
 - Median Earnings Second Quarter After Exit
 - Measurable Skill Gains
 - Credential Attainment Rate
 - Effectiveness in Serving Employers (baseline)
- WIOA Title III – Wagner-Peyser
 - Employment Second Quarter After Exit
 - Employment Fourth Quarter After Exit
 - Median Earnings Second Quarter After Exit
 - Effectiveness in Serving Employers (baseline)
- A description of the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board's strategy to align local resources, required partners, and entities that carry out core programs to achieve the strategic vision and goals.
- A description of the workforce development system in the four-county area of Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph.
- A description of how the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board, working with the entities carrying out core programs, will potentially expand access to employment, training, education, and supportive services for eligible individuals; facilitate the development of career pathways and co-enrollment in core programs; and improve access to activities leading to a recognized postsecondary credential.
- A description of the strategies and services that will be used in the four-county area to facilitate engagement of employers in workforce development programs and improve coordination between workforce development programs and economic development.
- A description of the one-stop delivery system in the four-county area.
- A description of coordination of WIOA Title I workforce investment activities with the provision of transportation and other appropriate supportive services in the local area.
- A description of how the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board will coordinate relevant secondary and post-secondary education programs and activities with education and workforce investment activities to coordinate strategies, enhance services, and avoid duplication of services.
- A description of coordination of WIOA Title I workforce investment activities with adult education and literacy activities under the WIOA Title II.
- A description of training services in the Michigan Works! Southwest area.
- A description of the actions the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board will take toward becoming and/or remaining a high-performing board, including effectiveness and continuous improvement criteria the board will implement to assess their one-stop centers, a description of the

allocation of one-stop center infrastructure funds and a description of the roles and contributions of one-stop partners, including cost allocation.

Prosperity Region 8 Regional Plan

The proposed Regional Plan includes the following required elements:

- The planning process utilized for the compilation of the plan, including partnership and planning with Berrien, Cass, Van Buren Michigan Works!.
- A thorough analysis of regional labor market data and economic conditions of Region 8.
- A description of regional service strategies with a priority on regional planning efforts amongst all partners and focusing on regional education and training needs.
- A description of plans for development, expansion and implementation of sector initiatives, including the potential expansion of the existing Healthcare and Manufacturing Consortiums and potential development of other in demand sectors in Region 8.
- Administrative cost arrangements for regional allocations of funding.
- Coordination of transportation and other support services and the potential plans for future coordination.
- Coordination of workforce development, economic development, training and business, as well as opportunity for further future enhancements of coordinated regional service delivery throughout Region 8.
- Performance measures and accountability systems for these measures throughout the Region, as outlined in the WIOA and negotiated with the Governor.

Duration and Modifications

During the four-year lifecycle of the Regional and Local Plans, local areas may be required to submit annual modifications to the Plans as changes in regional and local conditions necessitate, and as LEO determines necessary.

At a minimum, modifications for both Regional and Local Plans will be required at the end of the first two-year period of the plans.

Technical Information

Program Title/Number	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Four-Year Regional and Local Plans for Program Years 2020 through 2023; PI: 20-07, change 1
Funding Source	N/A
Funding Level	N/A
Duration	Program Years 2020-2023
Reference	Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) PI: 20-07, change 1, 4/5/2022
CFDA Number	N/A

**Instructions for Executing Infrastructure Funding Agreements (IFAs)
Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014
PI: 17-12, change 2, and subsequent changes**

Background

The WIOA requires local boards, with the agreement of the Chief Elected Official, to develop and execute Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with One-Stop partners pertaining to the operation of the One-Stop delivery system in the local service delivery area.

In accordance with the WIOA, the MOUs must also include an Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA), which details how infrastructure costs for the One-Stop delivery system will be funded in the local area.

Definition

Infrastructure costs of a One-Stop are defined as non-personnel costs that are necessary for the general operation of the One-Stop center, including but not limited to facility costs, utilities and maintenance, equipment, and technology to facilitate access to the One-Stop center.

Each entity that carries out a program or activities in a local One-Stop must use a portion of the funds available for the program and activities to maintain the One-Stop delivery system, including payment of the infrastructure costs of One-Stop centers.

IFA Development

Infrastructure costs should be funded through the establishment of a Local Funding Mechanism (LFM). The LFM provides flexibility to design and fund a One-Stop delivery system through consensus to meet the needs of the local area. If consensus cannot be reached under the LFM, a State Funding Mechanism (SFM) is triggered.

IFA Content

IFAs must include the following elements:

1. Duration
2. Infrastructure Costs Budget
3. One-Stop Partners
4. Modification and Review Process
5. Steps to Reach Consensus
6. Problem Resolution

Duration

The IFA must be renewed at least annually prior to the start of a new program year.

Technical Information

Program Title/Number	Instructions for Executing Infrastructure Funding Agreements (IFAs) Under the WIOA of 2014, PI: 17-12, change 2
Funding Source	N/A
Funding Level	N/A
Period of Performance	IFAs must be renewed at least annually prior to the start of a new program year
Source Reference	State of Michigan Policy Issuance: 17-12, change 2
CFDA Number	N/A

**Workforce Development Agreement
Between The County of Kalamazoo
and the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research**

Background

The County of Kalamazoo has been designated as the Grant Recipient by the State of Michigan, to provide for the planning, implementation, delivery, and overall management of workforce development services, under its authority as Grant Recipient.

The Workforce Development Agreement is made and entered into by and between the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (Michigan Works! Southwest), designated as the Administrative and Fiscal Agent, and the County of Kalamazoo, the Grant Recipient.

Purpose

In alignment with the goals and purposes set forth in workforce development legislation and State of Michigan regulations, the purpose of the Workforce Development Agreement is to establish a relationship with the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (Michigan Works! Southwest) for the planning, administration, Workforce Development Board staffing, and program and fiscal management of the four-county workforce development system and to define the terms and conditions of this undertaking.

Budget

The following funding allocation budget is included in the July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 Workforce Development Agreement:

Estimated 2022-2023 Funding Allocation Budget: \$7,810,721

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

Duration

The Workforce Development Agreement is completed every two years, with a budget modification completed annually to reflect actual expenditures, compared to the proposed budget.

Modification

In addition, a modification to the July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 Workforce Development Agreement is being updated to reflect the following:

Actual 2021-2022 Fund Availability: \$13,792,888

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

BRANCH – CALHOUN – KALAMAZOO - ST. JOSEPH COUNTIES
Workforce Development
Agreement Modification

Grant Recipient:

County of Kalamazoo
201 West Kalamazoo Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Administrative & Fiscal Agent:

W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
300 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

This Modification 01 to Agreement 2021-01 is entered into by and between the County of Kalamazoo and the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

The attached agreement is incorporated as Modification 01 to Agreement 2021-01 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Conditions warranting modification:

For Budget Year 2021/2022

1. To modify the 2021/2022 Funding Levels Worksheet (Exhibit I-A) to show actuals.
2. To modify the 2021/2022 W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Michigan Works! Southwest Budget Worksheet (Exhibit II-A) to show actuals.

For Budget Year 2022/2023

1. To include the estimated 2022/2023 Funding Levels Worksheet (Exhibit I-A).
 2. To include the estimated 2022/2023 W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Michigan Works! Southwest Budget Worksheet (Exhibit II-A).
-

Grant Recipient Authorized Representatives:

Michael Quinn, Chair *Date*
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

Administrative & Fiscal Agent Authorized Representatives:

Jakki Bungart-Bibb, MWA Director *Date*
W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Michael Horrigan, President *Date*
W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Contract 2021-1
Modification 01

Budget Year 2021-2022

**ACTUAL
FUNDING LEVELS
BUDGET YEAR 2021/2022**

FUNDING SOURCE	AVAILABILITY	ADMINISTRATION	PROGRAM
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022			
Dislocated Worker	938,772	93,877	844,895
Adult	1,189,245	118,924	1,070,321
Youth	1,432,289	143,228	1,289,061
High Concentration Youth	14,218	1,421	12,797
Young Professionals	150,000	15,000	135,000
Jobs for Michigan's Graduates	195,000	20,000	175,000
Covid-19 Recovery Project	152,130	15,213	136,917
Going Pro Apprenticeship	148,932	10,425	138,507
BRES Funding	185,840	9,292	176,548
BRES P&I	53,328	2,524	50,804
WIOA Capacity Building	31,774	0	31,774
Wagner Peyser	696,912	125,444	571,468
Total	5,188,440	555,348	4,633,092
October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022			
PATH TANF	2,625,009	315,001	2,310,008
PATH - Refugee P&I	39,690	4,762	34,928
TANF Supportive Service	58,543	0	58,543
PATH - State P&I	192,283	23,073	169,210
PATH - TSS	64,094	0	64,094
Learn Earn and Provide (LEAP) Pilot Project	290,068	29,006	261,062
LEAP GFGP	427,000	42,700	384,300
Clean Slate Pilot	285,220	51,339	233,881
Food Assistance	122,364	12,236	110,128
Food Assistance - Support Services	7,718	0	7,718
Going Pro Talent Fund	2,989,299	195,561	2,793,738
State Apprenticeship Expansion	528,000	36,960	491,040
UI RESEA	174,863	17,486	157,377
Trade Adjustment Assistance	800,297	28,582	771,715
Total	8,604,448	756,706	7,847,742

ACTUAL
FUNDING LEVELS
BUDGET YEAR 2021/2022
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

MWSW Administration Budget	[] ORIGINAL [X] MODIFICATION DATE: 6/30/2022
	Projected Expenditures Admin
SALARIES/ WAGES - 5010	819,000
INTERN/CONTRACT LABOR - 5020	0
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS -	311,220
COPIES DUPLICATING - 6060	1,175
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE - 6270	9,750
MARKETING *- 6420	12,750
MEMBERSHIPS *- 6440	1,600
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE - 6510	0
POSTAGE/MAILING - 6550	375
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT *- 6580	2,900
PROFESSIONAL FEES **- 6590	17,000
SOFTWARE LICENSES - 6710	6,560
SPACE RENTAL ***- 6730	60,000
SUPPLIES - 6940	4,650
TELEPHONE - 6960	7,500
TRAVEL (STAFF) - 6970	3,600
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	1,258,080

* Line Statements affected by special grants and fund availability.

**Professional fees - does not include special audits for special grants.

***Admin office space rental.

Contract 2021-1
Modification 01

Budget Year 2022-2023

ESTIMATED
FUNDING LEVELS
BUDGET YEAR 2022/2023

FUNDING SOURCE	AVAILABILITY	ADMINISTRATION	PROGRAM
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
Dislocated Worker	855,033	85,503	769,530
Youth	1,303,527	130,352	1,173,175
Adult	1,079,002	107,900	971,102
Capacity Building	31,774	0	31,774
Wagner Peyser	632,308	113,815	518,493
	3,901,644	437,570	3,464,074
October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023			
PATH TANF	2,625,009	315,001	2,310,008
PATH GF/GP	192,283	23,073	169,210
Food Assistance	122,364	12,236	110,128
UI RESEA	169,124	16,912	152,212
Trade Adjustment Assistance	800,297	28,582	771,715
	3,909,077	395,804	3,513,273

Agreement 2021-01

Projected Expenditures
BRANCH - CALHOUN - KALAMAZOO-ST. JOSEPH
MWSW Administration BUDGET

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

MWSW Administration Budget	[] ORIGINAL [X] MODIFICATION DATE: 6/30/2022
	Projected Expenditures Admin
SALARIES/ WAGES - 5010	541,693
INTERN/CONTRACT LABOR - 5020	2,500
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS -	205,843
COPIES DUPLICATING - 6060	1,000
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE - 6270	3,500
MARKETING *- 6420	12,000
MEMBERSHIPS *- 6440	7,000
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE - 6510	500
POSTAGE/MAILING - 6550	250
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT *- 6580	12,000
PROFESSIONAL FEES **- 6590	8,500
SOFTWARE LICENSES - 6710	750
SPACE RENTAL ***- 6730	30,000
SUPPLIES - 6940	750
TELEPHONE - 6960	750
TRAVEL (STAFF) - 6970	6,338
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	833,374

* Line Statements affected by special grants and fund availability.

** Professional fees - does not include special audits for special grants.

*** Admin office space rental.

Workforce Development Board Policy Revision Summary
June 16, 2022

WDB Policy 13 Rev 07 – ITA System

- Updated References
- Under Policy -
 - Added a local limit for ITAs as required by WIOA
 - Added criteria for ITA waivers

Workforce Development Board

WDB Policy 13 R07

AUTHORITY: The Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board is established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, and subsequent changes. The Board is assigned the responsibility to set policy for the workforce investment system within the local area.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE: Where any part of this policy is determined to conflict with any federal, state, or local policy, the federal, state, and then local policy will take precedence without affecting any other part or parts of this policy.

Individual Training Account (ITA) System

BACKGROUND

The primary goals of training services are the development of a qualified workforce to meet the needs of local employers and to enable individuals to acquire skills that will assist them to obtain self-sustaining employment in a locally determined, in-demand occupation of their choice.

Key elements in the decision for training enrollment are participant freedom of choice, assuring that the type of training is linked to a career/employment goal of the individual and that the training results in an industry recognized credential. Allowable types of training, the amount of funding available for training, the length of time allowed for training and other aspects of the activity will vary by funding source.

To ensure quality and accountability of training providers, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regulations require the use of training providers who have been vetted against a set of eligibility criteria. In Michigan, the Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL) is posted on the Michigan Training Connect (MiTC) website www.mitalent.org/mitc. WIOA participants interested in training will be directed to the ETPL on the MiTC website as part of the decision-making process. Preference may also be given to providers on the ETPL for training funded by other sources.

In the Michigan Works! Southwest (MWSW) area, training is purchased through an Individual Training Account (ITA) voucher system that is administered using locally developed policies and procedures that incorporate the requirements of federal and state policies.

SCOPE

All workforce development programs, services and activities under the auspices of the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board (WDB) except as noted otherwise.

REFERENCES

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014

The Trade Adjustment Act, all versions (TAA of 2002, TGAAA of 2009, TAAEA of 2011 and TAARA of 2015) and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Training Connect (MiTC) Policy Manual, June 2021 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Comprehensive Manual, updated May 10, 2019 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Manual, March 11, 2021 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Partnership.Accountability.Training.Hope.(PATH) Manual, updated May 19, 2022 and subsequent changes

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Policy 19 and subsequent revisions, "Participant Attendance and Satisfactory Progress in Training"

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Policy 17 and subsequent revisions: "WIOA Program Eligibility"

Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 08-19 WIOA Eligible Training Provider (ETP)

POLICY

I. Funding for Individual Training Account (ITA) Vouchers

- A. As part of the program design described in Request for Proposal (RFP) responses and the budget development process, each subrecipient/service provider that utilizes ITAs must set aside a portion of their allocation to fund training activities using ITA Vouchers. This level of funding will be negotiated annually with the Michigan Works! Southwest (MWSW) Administrative staff as part of the subrecipient/service provider renewal process.
- B. The level of funding set aside for ITA Vouchers must consider both the demand for ITAs and the total amount of the annual program allocation.
- C. All ITA Vouchers issued through MWSW will be processed through the MWSW Administrative/Finance Office including payment for training and the related expenses.

II. Use of ITA Vouchers

- A. ITA Vouchers will be issued only for skill enrichment or skill training in an area that directly leads to the attainment of an occupationally recognized credential in an in-demand and/or emerging industry or occupation in the MWSW labor market area and whose completion time is within the allowable length of the ITA voucher. Decisions on length of training to be funded must take into consideration the availability of current and future funding and preference must be given to short-term training (less than 9 months) where an industry recognized credential is awarded at the end of the MWSW funded training period.
- B. ITA vouchers may be used to fund training for WIOA Youth registered as Out-of-School and ages 18-24. Training decisions for this population must meet all other requirements of this policy and the accompanying procedures. The vouchers must be processed using local ITA procedures.
- C. The Michigan Works! Southwest Agency will develop ITA System Procedures to assure consistent application of federal, state, and local policies for training research, planning, decision making, and fund obligations.
 1. Unless otherwise allowable by funding source or policy, subrecipients/service providers must only approve funding for those programs or courses of study for which vendors have successfully completed the process to be listed on the ETPL, which is posted on the Michigan Training Connect (MiTC) website, including maintenance of annual updates.

2. Being listed on the ETPL as available in the Michigan Works! Southwest area does not necessarily constitute approval of a training program for use by local subrecipients/service providers. The stipulations of this policy and other local policies and priorities must be considered before approving and funding training through the ITA system.
- D. On a case-by-case basis, ITAs may be issued for participants who had previously received training or need to repeat a component of training. These decisions must be reviewed with the MWSW administrative entity and documented in the participant's program file.
- E. With the exception of the Trade Act (TAA) and subsequent versions of the Act (See Section III of this policy), the value of any ITA shall not exceed \$5,500 per year for two years, for a total of \$11,000 per person.
 1. Waivers above this limit may be granted by the MWSW administration after a case-by-case evaluation to determine if:
 - a. No other comparable training is available in the area, or
 - b. Without a waiver, the participant would be required to finance the outstanding cost of training from personal resources, including loans, or
 - c. Other extenuating circumstances exist that require the ITA Voucher to be extended (e.g., tuition and/or fee increases occurred during the term of the original ITA voucher, etc.)
 2. Waiver requests must be submitted in writing to the MWSW administration prior to the start of training. The waiver decision will be communicated in writing and must be received prior to the start of the training.
- F. Allowable costs to be covered by an ITA Voucher include:
 1. Tuition,
 2. Fees required by the training provider,
 3. Books, materials, and supplies required for a specific class or program,
 4. Auxiliary supplies not required by the training institution but necessary for the class (e.g., calculators, binders, paper, etc.) up to a maximum of \$25 per semester, and
 5. Academic support services.
- G. Eligibility for, and receipt of financial aid or grants for training costs, does not prohibit a program participant from receiving ITA assistance for training costs.
 1. Program participants, except for those using the TAA training benefit, will be required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process to determine their eligibility for other sources of financial assistance for training.
 2. In situations where the financial aid or grant may only be used for direct training costs, the Michigan Works! Southwest ITA may fund the portion of training not otherwise covered within the allowable training expenses noted in this policy.
 3. Financial aid or grants must be applied first to pay for the direct training costs unless specified otherwise.
- H. ITA vouchers must include a start date and an estimated end date consistent with the start and end date for the training period as given by the training institution.
 1. An extension to an ITA Voucher may be requested in writing by the subrecipient/service provider to the MWSW administration.
 2. Extensions may be authorized following a case-by-case review of the circumstances. A written decision from the MWSW administration must be received prior to any commitment to extend a voucher.
 3. An Individual Training Account Voucher or ITA Letter of Authorization (used for Trade Act training) must be prepared separately for each term, semester, or period when new classes are recommended to begin. (This

includes mid-term courses that may be initiated subsequent to the development of the class schedule for the full-term).

4. Renewal of an ITA voucher/modification for a subsequent training period must be based on successful completion of each prior training period. Successful completion is defined in WDB Policy 19 and subsequent revisions: Participant Attendance and Satisfactory Progress in Training.
- I. Internet-based learning may be considered for ITA Vouchers if the program/course of study meets the following conditions:
 1. The training is listed on the ETPL, as an eligible ITA training program, and
 2. The final credential awarded must be equivalent in content and standard of achievement to the same program completed on campus or at an institutional training location.
- J. ITA Vouchers may be used for classroom training required under apprenticeship agreements if the employer does not provide financial support for such training either through direct payment to the training institution or through an employee education reimbursement process.

III. Trade Act ITA Policy Exceptions

- A. Under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Act, all versions (TAA of 2002, TGAAA of 2009, TAAEA of 2011 and TAARA of 2015), participants are not limited to programs listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website when seeking approval for a training program or course of study.
 1. As part of the training approval process, participants must document that the training is linked to an in-demand career.
 2. Priority must be given to the use of training programs listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website.
- B. When considering the use of a training provider not listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website, the following selection criteria must be used:
 1. The education and training provider must be licensed and/or certified by the appropriate state agency.
 2. The “credibility” of the training provider or training program must be validated using the following criteria:
 - a. Confirmation that the training program has an established curriculum, and
 - b. The training provider has a history of training which leads to employment and can document successful training related placements, and
 - c. The training provider has credentialed instructors, and
 - d. The training provider awards a recognized credential or certification for successful completion of the course of study.
- C. The length of enrollment in training, including any allowable pre-requisite or remedial training, supported by funding from any version of TAA must not exceed the number of weeks of training allowable for the version of the Act under which the individual was certified.
- D. Training at a facility outside of the local commuting area may be approved only if comparable training is not available within the commuting area.
 1. Individuals can attend training outside of the State of Michigan under the aforementioned circumstance, or if the individual resides closer to the out-of-state training provider and the training is within the commuting area.
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- A. All training identified for PATH participants must follow the ITA policies and procedures with the exception of Condensed Vocational Training or short-term Vocational/Occupational Training that is in-demand, but not otherwise provided through an eligible provider/program listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website.
- B. Participants are not limited to programs listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website when seeking approval for a training program or course of study. Providers/programs not listed on the ETPL, which is posted on the MiTC website, must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Be in full compliance with Michigan licensing and certification requirements, and
 - 2. Be approved by the Michigan Works! Southwest agency's administration and entered into the OSMIS as a training provider prior to initiating a training voucher: and
 - 3. The training provider must have a history of providing training which leads to employment and can document successful training related placements.

V. In-Demand Employment

- A. Details regarding local in-demand employment are outlined in the WDB Policy 17 and subsequent revisions: WIOA Program Eligibility, Section VI.A.2.

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- A. Initial Eligibility - The following factors will be reviewed for the initial approval of a training provider:
 - 1. Whether or not the training provider is in partnership with a business.
 - 2. Other information to demonstrate high-quality training services, including whether or not the training leads to a recognized postsecondary credential.
 - 3. Information that addresses the alignment of the training with in-demand industry sectors and occupations, to the extent possible.
- B. Continued Eligibility – The following factors will be reviewed for the continued eligibility of a training provider:
 - 1. Access to training services throughout the state and rural areas through the use of technology.
 - 2. Information reported to state agencies on federal and state training programs other than programs within WIOA Title I.
 - 3. The degree to which training programs relate to in-demand industry sectors and occupations within the state.
 - 4. The provider's ability to offer industry-recognized certificates and/or credentials.
 - 5. The ability of providers to offer programs that lead to postsecondary credentials.
 - 6. The quality of the training program, including a program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential.
 - 7. The ability of the providers to provide training services that are physically and programmatically accessible for individuals who are employed and individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities.
 - 8. The timeliness and accuracy of performance reports.
- C. State minimum performance levels shall be used when determining eligibility of a training provider.
- D. MWSW, may at its discretion, request additional information from the school prior to the MWA approval, such as the name of employers involved in partnership with

the training institution, additional information on the school's alignment with in-demand industry sectors, occupations, etc.

- E. MWSW may include other factors to ensure quality and value, as appropriate, including and/or not limited to:
 - 1. The accountability of providers,
 - 2. A requirement of additional criteria and information from local providers as criteria to become or remain eligible in the MWSW area,
 - 3. The ability of a provider to partner with employers and to provide job placement services,
 - 4. The drop-out rate of the training provider,
 - 5. Student loan default rate of the provider.
- F. Programs that do not meet local performance standards can be approved or disapproved at the discretion of the MWA.
 - 1. The school may provide supplemental information that demonstrates that local economic conditions render the earnings and credentials expectations unrealistic and/or that the program serves many hard-to-serve students to be taken into consideration when determining the eligibility of the training institution.
 - 2. The school may lack a documented track record, such as
 - a. Programs with cohorts lasting more than one year that can experience years in which no one graduates, and no one drops out for which credential attainment cannot be calculated.
 - b. All program graduates transfer to continuing education in a related field where there may be zero graduates available for employment and therefore, wages are undefined.

VII. Appeals Process

- A. The training provider has the right to appeal their removal from the MiTC within 30 working days from the date of the revocation, following the [WD Grievance and Complaint Policy](#) in effect at the time of training provider's removal from the MiTC.
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- C. State level appeals can be addressed to the Talent Information Systems (TIS) supervisor and sent to LEO-MiTC@Michigan.gov for review. A final determination at the state level stands and is not afforded an additional appeal.

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE

7/1/2005

APPROVED

Initial Policy	WDB Executive Committee	8/4/2005
Revision 01	WDB Executive Committee	8/1/2007
Revision 02	WDB Executive Committee	1/7/2010
Revision 03	WDB Executive Committee	4/5/2012
Revision 03	WDB Executive Committee	10/15/2014 (All WDB policies accepted to apply to all four counties)
Revision 04	WDB Executive Committee	6/17/2015
Revision 05	WDB Executive Committee	4/10/2020
Revision 06	WDB Executive Committee	7/15/2021
Revision 07	WDB Executive Committee	x/xx/2022

EXPIRATION

Ongoing

Workforce Development Board

WDB Policy 13 ~~R06~~R07

AUTHORITY: The Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board is established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, and subsequent changes. The Board is assigned the responsibility to set policy for the workforce investment system within the local area.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE: Where any part of this policy is determined to conflict with any federal, state, or local policy, the federal, state, and then local policy will take precedence without affecting any other part or parts of this policy.

Individual Training Account (ITA) System

BACKGROUND

The primary goals of training services are the development of a qualified workforce to meet the needs of local employers and to enable individuals to acquire skills that will assist them to obtain self-sustaining employment in a locally determined, in-demand occupation of their choice.

Key elements in the decision for training enrollment are participant freedom of choice, assuring that the type of training is linked to a career/employment goal of the individual and that the training results in an industry recognized credential. Allowable types of training, the amount of funding available for training, the length of time allowed for training and other aspects of the activity will vary by funding source.

To ensure quality and accountability of training providers, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regulations require the use of training providers who have been vetted against a set of eligibility criteria. In Michigan, the Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL) is posted on the Michigan Training Connect (MiTC) website www.mitalent.org/mitc. WIOA participants interested in training will be directed to the ETPL on the MiTC website as part of the ~~decision-making~~ decision-making process. Preference may also be given to providers on the ETPL for training funded by other sources.

In the Michigan Works! Southwest (MWSW) area, training is purchased through an Individual Training Account (ITA) voucher system that is administered using locally developed policies and procedures that incorporate the requirements of federal and state policies.

SCOPE

All workforce development programs, services and activities under the auspices of the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board (WDB) except as noted otherwise.

REFERENCES

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014

The Trade Adjustment Act, all versions (TAA of 2002, TGAAA of 2009, TAAEA of 2011 and TAARA of 2015) and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Training Connect (MiTC) Policy Manual, June 2021 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Comprehensive Manual, updated May 10, 2019 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Manual, March 11, 2021 and subsequent changes

Michigan workforce development department's Partnership.Accountability.Training.Hope.(PATH) Manual, updated May 19, 2022 ~~December 15, 2020~~ and subsequent changes

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Policy 19 and subsequent revisions, "Participant Attendance and Satisfactory Progress in Training";

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Policy 17 and subsequent revisions: "WIOA Program Eligibility"

Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 08-19 WIOA Eligible Training Provider (ETP)

POLICY

I. Funding for Individual Training Account (ITA) Vouchers

- A. As part of the program design described in Request for Proposal (RFP) responses and the budget development process, each subrecipient/service provider that utilizes ITAs must set aside a portion of their allocation to fund training activities using ITA Vouchers. This level of funding will be negotiated annually with the Michigan Works! Southwest (MWSW) Administrative staff as part of the subrecipient/service provider renewal process.
- B. The level of funding set aside for ITA Vouchers must consider both the demand for ITAs and the total amount of the annual program allocation.
- C. All ITA Vouchers issued through MWSW will be processed through the MWSW Administrative/Finance Office including payment for training and the related expenses.

II. Use of ITA Vouchers

- A. ITA Vouchers will be issued only for skill enrichment or skill training in an area that directly leads to the attainment of an occupationally recognized credential in an in-demand and/or emerging industry or occupation in the MWSW labor market area and whose completion time is within the allowable length of the ITA voucher. Decisions on length of training to be funded must take into consideration the availability of current and future funding and preference must be given to short-term training (less than 9 months) where an industry recognized credential is awarded at the end of the MWSW funded training period.
- B. ITA vouchers may be used to fund training for WIOA Youth registered as Out-of-School and ages 18-24. Training decisions for this population must meet all other requirements of this policy and the accompanying procedures. The vouchers must be processed using local ITA procedures.
- C. The Michigan Works! Southwest Agency will develop ITA System Procedures to assure consistent application of federal, state, and local policies for training research, planning, decision making, and fund obligations.
 1. Unless otherwise allowable by funding source or policy, subrecipients/service providers must only approve funding for those programs or courses of study for which vendors have successfully completed the process to be listed on the ETPL, which is posted on the Michigan Training Connect (MiTC) website, including maintenance of annual updates.

2. Being listed on the ETPL as available in the Michigan Works! Southwest area does not necessarily constitute approval of a training program for use by local subrecipients/service providers. The stipulations of this policy and other local policies and priorities must be considered before approving and funding training through the ITA system.
- D. On a ~~case-by-case~~case-by-case basis, ITAs may be issued for participants who had previously received training or need to repeat a component of training. These decisions must be reviewed with the MWSW administrative entity and documented in the participant's program file.
- E. With the exception of the Trade Act (TAA) and subsequent versions of the Act (See Section III of this policy), the value of any ITA shall not exceed \$5,500 per year for two years, for a total of \$11,000 per person.
 1. Waivers above this limit may be granted by the MWSW administration after a case-by-case evaluation to determine if:
 - a. No other comparable training is available in the area, or
 - b. Without a waiver, the participant would be required to finance the outstanding cost of training from personal resources, including loans,
or
 - c. Other extenuating circumstances exist that require the ITA Voucher to be extended (e.g., tuition and/or fee increases occurred during the term of the original ITA voucher, etc.)
 2. Waiver requests must be submitted in writing to the MWSW administration prior to the start of training. The waiver decision will be communicated in writing and must be received prior to the start of the training.
- ~~E.F.~~ Allowable costs to be covered by an ITA Voucher include:
 1. Tuition.
 2. Fees required by the training provider.
 3. Books, materials, and supplies required for a specific class or program.
 4. Auxiliary supplies not required by the training institution but necessary for the class (e.g., calculators, binders, paper, etc.) up to a maximum of \$25 per semester, and
 5. Academic support services.
- ~~E.G.~~ Eligibility for, and receipt of financial aid or grants for training costs, does not prohibit a program participant from receiving ITA assistance for training costs.
 1. Program participants, except for those using the TAA training benefit, will be required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process to determine their eligibility for other sources of financial assistance for training.
 2. In situations where the financial aid or grant may only be used for direct training costs, the Michigan Works! Southwest ITA may fund the portion of training not otherwise covered within the allowable training expenses noted in this policy.
 3. Financial aid or grants must be applied first to pay for the direct training costs unless specified otherwise.
- ~~G.H.~~ ITA vouchers must include a start date and an estimated end date consistent with the start and end date for the training period as given by the training institution.
 1. An extension to an ITA Voucher may be requested in writing by the subrecipient/service provider to the MWSW administration.
 2. Extensions may be authorized following a case-by-case review of the circumstances. A written decision from the MWSW administration must be received prior to any commitment to extend a voucher.
 3. An Individual Training Account Voucher or ITA Letter of Authorization (used for Trade Act training) must be prepared separately for each term, semester, or period when new classes are recommended to begin. (This

includes mid-term courses that may be initiated subsequent to the development of the class schedule for the full-term).

4. Renewal of an ITA voucher/modification for a subsequent training period must be based on successful completion of each prior training period. Successful completion is defined in WDB Policy 19 and subsequent revisions: Participant Attendance and Satisfactory Progress in Training.

H.I. Internet-based learning may be considered for ITA Vouchers if the program/course of study meets the following conditions:

1. The training is listed on the ETPL, as an eligible ITA training program, and
2. The final credential awarded must be equivalent in content and standard of achievement to the same program completed on campus or at an institutional training location.

H.J. ITA Vouchers may be used for classroom training required under apprenticeship agreements if the employer does not provide financial support for such training either through direct payment to the training institution or through an employee education reimbursement process.

III. Trade Act ITA Policy Exceptions

- A. Under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Act, all versions (TAA of 2002, TGAAA of 2009, TAAEA of 2011 and TAARA of 2015), participants are not limited to programs listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website when seeking approval for a training program or course of study.
 1. As part of the training approval process, participants must document that the training is linked to an in-demand career.
 2. Priority must be given to the use of training programs listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website.
- B. When considering the use of a training provider not listed on the ETPL posted on the MiTC website, the following selection criteria must be used:
 1. The education and training provider must be licensed and/or certified by the appropriate state agency.
 2. The “credibility” of the training provider or training program must be validated using the following criteria:
 - a. Confirmation that the training program has an established curriculum, and
 - b. The training provider has a history of training which leads to employment and can document successful training related placements, and
 - c. The training provider has credentialed instructors, and
 - d. The training provider awards a recognized credential or certification for successful completion of the course of study.
- C. The length of enrollment in training, including any allowable pre-requisite or remedial training, supported by funding from any version of TAA must not exceed the number of weeks of training allowable for the version of the Act under which the individual was certified.
- D. Training at a facility outside of the local commuting area may be approved only if comparable training is not available within the commuting area.
 1. Individuals can attend training outside of the State of Michigan under the aforementioned circumstance, or if the individual resides closer to the out-of-state training provider and the training is within the commuting area.
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<u>Revision 07</u>	<u>WDB Executive Committee</u>	<u>x/xx/2022</u>

EXPIRATION

Ongoing

Directors Report

June 17, 2022

Michigan News

- Ford Plans to add 6,200 jobs in Ohio, Michigan, and Missouri. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- Ford's \$2B investment in Michigan 'solidifies' state's auto production. More information can be found [here](#).
- Pfizer investment in Michigan plant is big news in fight against pandemic. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- 2022 Michigan petition drives tracker: What to know about election proposals. More information can be found [here](#).
- Firm to build \$3M electric vehicle charger plant in Michigan. More information can be found [here](#).

Michigan Works! Association Strategic Planning

The Michigan Works! Association is participating in a strategic planning process to advance the future of the association to better serve its members. The first session was conducted on May 15th with the next scheduled session planned for September. This process includes the Michigan Works! Association board members which is a mix of public and private sector representatives.

Federal News

TAA

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Program is a federal entitlement program that assists U.S. workers who lose their jobs or are threatened with job loss as a result of foreign trade. The TAA Program, established by the Trade Act of 1974, has been amended eleven times over the past 48 years. The most recent amendments, enacted in 2015, include reversion and sunset (termination) provisions effective July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022 respectively. However, under this provision, services must continue to be provided after June 30, 2022, to determine individual worker eligibility and provide benefits and services for workers covered under certified petitions.

Wagner Peyser

On April 20, 2022, the U.S. Department of Labor announced a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) seeking public comment on revisions to Wagner-Peyser Act regulations. These proposed rules would require state merit staff to deliver Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Services.

- In the 1990s, the Department approved limited exemptions from the merit-staffing requirement for three States (Colorado, Massachusetts, and Michigan) during the establishment of the one-stop delivery system to test alternative service-delivery models.

- The Department recognizes that this proposed change will have the most impact on the three demonstration States, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Michigan. Since the 1990s, these three States have relied on an exemption in their approved State plans to use some limited form of non-State-merit staffing. Colorado and Michigan both use only merit-staffing to deliver ES services. For these States, the proposed regulation would require that they discontinue their use of local merit staff and use only State merit staff.
- The Department proposes to provide 18 months for States to implement the State merit-staffing requirement in order to provide States with adequate time to consider and implement any necessary changes to come into compliance, including time to resolve outstanding contractual obligations and align changes with the timed financial allotments.
- The Department anticipates that the proposed rule would result in costs, transfer payments, and benefits for State governments and agricultural employers. The costs of the proposed rule would include rule familiarization and additional information collection for State governments, as well as transition costs such as recruitment, training, and technology expenses for the three States that currently have non-State-merit staff providing some labor exchange services and would need to transition to State merit staff for the provision of all labor exchange services.

Wagner Peyser Update

- Nearly 1,500 signatures on Statement of Support
- Close to 600 different organizations represented
- Resolution signed by Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners