## ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD



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# WIOA NEWSLETTER

### WIDA Implementation—Regional Informational Forums

To assist in preparation for implementation of WIOA, the ICCB hosted three regional informational forums for Adult Education and Career & Technical Education Administrators and Staff to participate in the process of planning and implementation.

The meetings were held at the following dates and locations:

- June 1, 2015–Central–Holiday Inn & Suites Bloomington Airport, Bloomington
- June 2, 2015-South-Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham
- June 3, 2015—North—Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills

There is still time to participate in the planning process! To take part, click on the following link to access the Survey Monkey survey that has been created to continue gathering feedback that will help to inform the comments that ICCB will be submitting before June 15. Issue 2 - Friday, May 29, 2015

#### **Newsletter Highlights**

NOTE: The public comment period for the proposed rules for WIOA closes on Monday, June 15, 2015. If you would like to submit comments, you can do so using the links below.

The public comment period ends June 15, 2015.

Find the proposed rules here: <u>Part One</u> <u>Part Two</u> <u>Part Three</u>

Comment on the proposed rules here: <u>Part One</u> <u>Part Two</u> <u>Part Three</u>

To access the survey, click <u>here</u>.

#### State Interagency WIDA Implementation Team

To move forward for the successful implementation of WIOA, the State has established a State Interagency Work Group to work together to address required WIOA issues:

- 1. Address WIOA state level issues;
- 2. Provide input and guidance to the seven local task advisory groups as needed;
- 3. Work out how the core program partners will meet their obligations within the One-Stop infrastructure costs, program and career services and;
- 4. Resolve technical and programmatic details required by WIOA.

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has contracted with Kerber, Eck, and Braeckel to coordinate and facilitate not only the seven local WIOA Task Advisory Groups, (TAGs), but also the State Interagency Work Group. Recently, a hub for all meeting agendas, meeting summaries, supporting materials and other resources related to work for the members of the State Interagency Work Group was created.

#### State Interagency WIDA Team cont.

The State Interagency Work Group began meeting in May and began working on identifying the required partners' career services and programs and services to be delivered through the One-Stop system. Additionally, the Team has begun discussing One-Stop infrastructure costs as they relate to the six core partners. All required partners are represented on the State Interagency Work Group. WIOA implementation issues are also explored simultaneously from a local perspective through the seven local TAGs.

Adult Education and Career and Technical Education are represented on each of the local TAGs. Please refer to the initial WIOA newsletter for a list of the seven TAGs.

#### LWIA Contact List Now Available

The Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) keeps a listing with the contact information for key individuals affiliated with each of the LWIAs and LWIBs.

The purpose of the list is to serve as the official list of contacts for each local workforce investment area's Chief Elected Official(s), LWIB Chair, LWIB Staff, WIA Program Services Administrator and DCEO Office of Employment & Training Staff.

To access this contact list, click <u>here</u>.

The list can also be accessed on the WIOA page of the ICCB website: <a href="http://www.iccb.org/wioa.html">www.iccb.org/wioa.html</a>.

#### Sector Strategies Workshops Update

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) coordinated efforts to offer three Regional Sector Strategies Workshops sponsored through the US Department of Labor. The three workshops were held on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Effingham, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Moraine Valley, and May 21<sup>st</sup> at Daley College. The purpose of the workshops was to bring regional partners together to learn how to address employer needs from a sector perspective, i.e., manufacturing, healthcare, TDL, etc. Lyndsey Woolsey of the Woolsey Group led the workshops and provided training and technical assistance. Currently she is working with several states addressing sector strategies.

According to Maher and Maher, sector partnerships are partnerships of companies from the same industry, such as manufacturing, education, workforce development, economic development, community organizations, and other stakeholders in a shared labor market region that collectively focus on a set of priorities that matter to the health and competitiveness of their industry. They are industry led, community supported, convened or facilitated by a credible third party, an organizing vehicle, local or regional (not top-down or statewide), action oriented and not limited to workforce issues.

Regional sector strategies are a major element of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, although they are more encompassing than WIOA. Illinois has worked on sector strategies for several years and has many good examples one of the earliest being the Critical Skill Shortages Initiative.

More information will be provided as it becomes available regarding sector strategies and partnerships. The DCEO will send a survey to attendees soon for additional input.

Questions, comments, or suggestions regarding the WIOA Newsletter or WIOA page on the ICCB website?

Please email inquiries and suggestions to: Josh Beneze, Associate Director for Adult Education and Workforce josh.beneze@illinois.gov