

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

B. J. Swanson
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Workforce Development Policy Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members: BJ Swanson, Jason Hudson, Christi Gilchrist, Todd Schwarz, John Smith, Scott Syme, Lori Wolff, Jani Revier, Tom Kealey, Tom Schultz, Clay Long

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Paige Nielebeck, Amanda Ames, Jeffrey Bacon, Caty Solace, Matthew Thomsen

Guests:

Call to Order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Quorum not met

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

Review February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

This item will be moved to the next meeting.

Registered Apprenticeship Incentive Policy

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Registered Apprenticeship Incentive Policy. Please see attached document.

Discussion

The Committee is in support of allowing the policy to cover the promotion of incumbent employees.

How many employers in the state of Idaho are registered for apprenticeship programs?

- 150-180 employers have existing registered apprentices. Some employers have multiple occupations registered. Mr. Thomsen can get data on how many different occupations are registered in Idaho.
- There are 545 apprentices in Idaho.
- Are most of the apprenticeships in urban areas or are rural areas taking advantage of them as well?
 - Rural Areas are taking advantage of apprenticeships. Some rural areas are working with IBE on youth apprenticeships. There is a good mix of rural and urban.
 - There will be more apprenticeships in urban areas simply because of population density.

Has the Committee defined on-boarding?

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- No, but Mr. Bacon has created a definition for the YARG internal policies so the Committee could look at utilizing it.

What are some of the guidelines in determining when it is in the best interest of the WDC to utilize the claw back provision?

- The WDC has not had to do this yet. It is in the WDC's standard terms and conditions.
- We know that registered apprenticeships have met a certain level or rigor. This provision would go into effect if there is significant churn in a business's program.

In the future it would be nice to be able to scale the program according to the size of apprenticeship program, but this is a good place to start.

The Committee is in support of the presented policy. Ms. Nielebeck will plan on scheduling a meeting in early April for the Committee to act on the policy.

For-Credit Training in Launch Update

Over the last couple of meetings, the Committee has discussed adding for-credit programs to Launch. Federal Financial Aid is not able to be used for programs under 16 credits. There are a few training gaps in Launch due to the training being part of a for-credit program. The WDC staff is working to identify where the gaps are and bring the for-credit programs back to the committee for discussions and possible addition to Launch.

Discussion

One of the areas in high demand that is for-credit is Auto Technician programs.

In-Demand Occupations Update

The WDC and the State Board of Education is working to update the in-demand jobs list. Craig Shaul, from IDOL, is working on a project having to do with hot jobs. It will be good for this Committee to be integrated into these discussions since we have been having conversations around how in-demand jobs might play a role in policy decisions. The hot jobs list was never intended to be used as a strategy planning tool. The methodology was intended to be used as a loose recommendation for job seekers.

The new methodology will better fit the WDC's needs and reflect the in-demand jobs in Idaho. The information will help provide better connections to education and training resources. For programs like Launch, we are dealing with high school students or individuals with job seeking barriers that need an entry level way into a career. The in-demand jobs list does not provide a clear line of sight to those entry level jobs.

The first phase of the revamp will be complete in June. The Committee will need to look at the ETP Policy before the July Council meeting so having the new list will be helpful.

Adjourned at 2:37 p.m.