

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Workforce Development Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2022

Committee Members: Christi Gilchrist, Clay Long, Hope Morrow, Jani Revier, ~~Jason Hudson~~, John Smith, Lori Barber, ~~Scott Syme~~, Sean Coletti, Barry Pate on behalf of Todd Schwarz, Tom Kealey, ~~Tom Schultz~~

Staff: Caty Solace, Wendi Secrist, Stacy James, Jeffrey Bacon, Amanda Ames

Guests: None

Call to Order at 2:01 pm

Roll Call: Quorum met

Review Agenda: Amended to review Launch Course Approvals prior to meeting minutes.

Review February 15 and March 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. Kealy to approve the February 15 and March 15, 2022 meeting minutes as written. Second by Mr. Long. Motion carried.

***Launch Course Approvals**

The Committee reviewed the Idaho Launch course changes. Please see attached list.

The Pharmacy Technician Program at Idaho State University should be removed from the list as it is a credit-based program.

North Idaho College (NIC) requests to add Construction Pre-Apprenticeship, Construction Apprenticeship and Heavy Equipment Operation Apprenticeship. NIC received sector grant to establish course curriculum.

College of Southern Idaho (CSI) restructuring Welding courses for clearer skill level and course description.

Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC) adding the in-demand course "Assistance with Medication".

We would like to move forward with pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Idaho Rural Water Association (IRWA) to support their apprenticeship program.

The MOU has been signed between WDC and Idaho Center for Nursing. We are pursuing an MOU with Family Support Partnerships the training is for peer behavioral intervention counseling. The Governor's office has recommended both to be funded through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

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Discussion:

Does there need to be a distinction as ARPA specific authorized?

- The WDC policies are sufficiently broad enough to include recommendations. The courses will be presented to the Council with the addendum to analyze the impact to the workforce of non-degree certificate counseling employees.
- Yes, we should move forward with the MOU with IRWA.

Motion by Ms. Barber to approve the Launch Course List as presented except for the Idaho State University Pharmacy Technician program. Second by Ms. Gilchrist. Motion carried.

****Eligible Training Provider Appeal – Boise Code Works***

Ms. Secrist reviewed the Boise Code Works appeal. Please see attached document.

Motion by Ms. Barber to approve the Boise Code Works appeal and add Software Development back to the Eligible Training Provider list. Second by Mr. Smith. Motion carried.

Discussion on Launch Policy Updates

The current Idaho Launch approach focuses on matching non-credit training to the skillsets that employers identified as most needed in the 2020 summer survey. The current offerings cover many of the in-demand jobs pulled from the Idaho Department of Labor in Demand jobs list. If we were to extend to for credit programs, we could cover almost all the rest of those positions. Automotive Service Technician is a great example individuals can only receive this through for-credit training. The discussion of risk and benefits to adding for credit courses will be continued at the next meeting.

Discussion:

How could for credit courses add bandwidth to the Launch program and what are thresholds?

- The ARPA funds need to be obligated by 2024 and disbursed by 2026.
- The for-credit programs would need to be finished within 2 years.
 - The 2 years could potentially bridge an associate degree (AA) to a bachelor's degree (BA/BS) or a BA/BS to Masters.
- Success extends beyond program completion.
 - Success is filling the in-demand jobs so even a student who "jobs out" to one of the in-demand, higher paying jobs is a success.
 - If success is filling an in-demand job that may not always directly result in higher wages.
- We need to align existing student financial aid with additional ARPA grant funding.
- Institutions have limited resources to manage eligibility, enrollment, and funding. How will expanding Launch stress the institution?
- The participants access to for credit courses should be taken into account: ease of use, regional institution availability, and regional employer demand.

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**Motion by Mr. Kealy to adjourn. Second by Ms. Revier. Motion carried.
Adjourned at 3:00 pm.**