

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

John Young
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, ID 83702

Workforce Development Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2024

Committee Members: Hope Morrow, Lori Barber, Christi Gilchrist, ~~Jason Hudson~~, Tom Kealey, Clay Long, Daniel Puga, Jani Revier, ~~Tom Schultz~~, John Smith, ~~Scott Bedke~~

Staff: Wendi Secrist, Sherawn Reberry, Rebecca Watson, Matthew Thomsen, Cassie Mansour, Kimberly Gardner

Guests: Jon Woodard, NW Ironworkers

Call to Order at 2:03 p.m.

Roll Call – Quorum met.

Review Agenda – No changes to the agenda

***Review December 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Long to approve December 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Ms. Barber. Motion carried.

Idaho Launch Updates

- **Idaho Launch Adults**
 - We have transitioned back to Airtable for use of Adult LAUNCH providers and courses.
 - Ms. Secrist shared LAUNCH funding updates – we have additional monies to utilize from the CHIPS act.
- **Idaho Launch Students**
 - Dr. Reberry shared that we have had high results in percentages of students in each education region applying for Idaho Launch.
 - The LAUNCH team reviewed datasets including the top 12 career programs for which are being applied.
 - The acceptance period closed yesterday for the first round of contingent offer letters. The team will work to ensure that each of the providers has the information for the students that have accepted contingent offers with the intent to attend the specific education/training facilities.
 - Dr. Reberry demonstrated how to find the In-Demand careers list and the LAUNCH Providers listing on [Nextsteps.idaho.gov/launch](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/launch).
 - Updated training this Thursday for high school counselors.

Idaho Launch Gap Analysis Data

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- Dr. Reberry shared how the data is being collected from all the LAUNCH providers to analyze the course offerings currently through Idaho LAUNCH for adults. .
- The LAUNCH team showed data on all Launch course usage.
- Discussion ensued:
 - Is the program being accessed?
 - Does it align to a credential?
 - Should we prioritize other career training?
 - Should we focus on bundling and career pathways?
 - Do students need to sign up for all the training at once or can we add more later?
 - With the stackable skills do they have to sign up for them all initially or can they opt in for more courses once they get started?
 - How to diversify the interest/approved funding in LAUNCH?
 - Everyone knows that truck drivers and healthcare careers are in-demand. We need to increase the marketing for the other training opportunities.
 - With the numbers of participants in the adult LAUNCH do we need to think about wait-listing people. We could decide we are only funding a certain number per quarter, and award them on a first-come, first-served basis. Only a thought.
- There is a bill at the federal level right now that might make workforce training Pell Grant eligible. We will observe as this unfolds.
- We had to turn Launch off last May for 2 months. We will probably be doing so again this year. Next fiscal year will see half of the funding for Adult Launch.
 - How much should we focus on stacking? Should we just focus on how many new bodies we need in each field?

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Colorado has an approach to determining Quality and In-Demand Non-degree Credentials. See the rubric below for their simple framework of determining which trainings to fund:

To determine if a credential meets the above definition and should be designated as a quality and in-demand non-degree credential, the following rubric should be applied.

The credential must demonstrate each of the four signals of quality: Demand, Evidence of Skills, Employment Outcomes, and Stackability. The credential must meet at least one (1) of the following criteria in each category.

 Demand	<input type="checkbox"/> Connects to a Top Job or critical occupation listed in the Talent Pipeline Report over the last three years. <input type="checkbox"/> Defined as a regional need or emerging credential by the local Workforce Development Board or Approving Agency. <input type="checkbox"/> Accredited or recognized by a statewide or national industry-recognized accredited body.
 Evidence of Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides clearly identified information on what skills and competencies are demonstrated by earning the credential.
 Employment Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Directly leads to a job paying a living wage (as defined by the MIT living wage calculator for each county). <input type="checkbox"/> Develops the essential skills and competencies needed for jobs that pay a living wage. <input type="checkbox"/> Can be stacked with other credentials to earn a living wage in an in-demand occupation or career pathway.
 Stackability	<input type="checkbox"/> Exists as part of a stackable sequence of aligned credentials allowing for skill development, career progression, and increased earnings over time. <input type="checkbox"/> Is a prerequisite to a credential required by industry to obtain a job. <input type="checkbox"/> Leads to family living wage in a growing occupation on its own.

OR

The credential must meet one (1) of the following criteria:

- The credential is required by law (i.e. Department of Regulatory Agencies or other regulatory/certifying agency) or is a prerequisite to a credential required by law.
- The credential is part of (or a prerequisite to) a Registered Apprenticeship Program.
- The credential leads to a critical occupation identified by the CWDC's Career Pathways Team, as evidenced by being directly related to an occupation or pathway in Careers in Colorado in My Colorado Journey.

- The committee discussed that minimum wages as a criterion could knock out programs that are desperately needed. They also considered addressing that with a multiple-measures framework.
- The committee would like to readdress this topic in February.
- There are many entities impacted by this framework.

Motion by Ms. Revier to adjourn. Second by Mr. Long. Motion carried.
Adjourned at 3:12 p.m.