

**BRAD LITTLE**  
GOVERNOR

**Wendi Secrist**  
Executive Director



**Deni Hoehne**  
Chair

**Sarah Griffin**  
Vice Chair

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

### Workforce Development Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2026

**Committee Members:** Hope Morrow, Lori Barber, Tom Kealey, Daniel Puga, Jani Revier, John Smith, Lt. Governor Scott Bedke, Jeff Greene, Representative Sonia Galaviz, Colby Mattila, Kenny Huston

**Staff:** Sherawn Reberry, Denise Hill, Wendi Secrist, Stacy James, Chad Lahti, Kimberly Gardner, Meliah Anchustegui, Amanda Ames

#### Guests:

#### Call to Order at 2:33 P.M.

##### Welcome

Hope Morrow, Chair

- Roll Call, Introductions, Quorum not met
- Review Agenda – reorder – moving Workforce PELL Discussion to top
- **\*Review February 17, 2026 Meeting Minutes, tabled due to lack of quorum**

##### Workforce Pell Discussion/Preview

Wendi Secrist

- Discussion at May meeting for recommendation to full Council in June
- Approved through the One Big Beautiful Bill
- Thought has been floating around for 15 years at the federal level to cover shorter term training
- Idaho's LAUNCH work aligned with filling that gap
- States must pull together a process to approve programs and providers which will be approved by the governor
- Recommendations to set up the infrastructure
- Lots of cross-agency work and conversations
- Where does it belong for implementation
- Recommending policy be driven by Workforce Development Council
  - WDC is nimbler to change direction if issues arise
  - Long term it may go under state board rule
    - Those aspects govern providers
- Funds will be available July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Lots of work by the US Department of Education
  - Measuring ROI - definitions
  - Wage matching with IRS'
  - Did individuals go to the careers they trained for
- Possibly open application mid to late May
- Council action June 10th

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- This committee will help rough out the policy
- Overview of requirements
  - Presentation from Department of Education
  - Pete Risse came up with Policy recommendations
    - Start with pilot
    - Only public providers, around 5 or so occupations of focus
    - CNA will likely not be a part of it if it is a steppingstone to something else
    - Individualized CAN may be
    - Registered apprenticeships, may be seen as a 4-year program
- Work to be done
- On May agenda for this committee
- If we can get draft approval at Council in June, then we could start with 4/ 5 programs
- Suggestion: "Medical Assistant" rather than "CAN"
- Discussion:
  - How will it work with LAUNCH
    - May have to make changes to LAUNCH policy on last dollar in

### **\*In-Demand Career Matrix Thresholds**

**Hope Morrow, Chair**

#### **Decision tabled**

- General Discussion
  - See-saw programs, do we need to create a buffer
  - Why see-saw, cause
    - High level, changes in job projections and wage potential
    - Refined methodology
    - Calculation source changes based on education requirements
  - Do we want a threshold, buffer period
    - If so, what is it
  - Occupations and programs are not a 1:1, if one drops there are many that didn't (teachers)
  - Need decision, allow for the nuance or do we just stick to the data
  - Trimming the list is a different conversation
  - Support variance threshold
  - Do we have enough data to make an informed decision or wait 5 years
  - Do we have enough data to truly understand the shifts
    - Enough to isolate these within this group
    - Early grads affected, funding before July 1 then they become the previous year graduate affecting options
  - Does the see saw have any impact on the program at the providers – nothing so far
    - Becomes problematic for financial aid office
    - Working with developers on the look in the system

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- Provide training
- More of an issue with the counselors in schools
- Not developing programs specifically for the in-demand list
- May affect private providers more
- If we do a variance, what does it really mean
- What do we gain by doing it, occupations on the cusp due to regionality, point of program is to support and create stability
- How many individuals are we talking about being affected?
  - Will be different every year
- 2 phase approach
  - This year pick, next year answer more questions and review
- Strategic standpoint, are there any other LAUNCH policy changes...is it better to wait another year
- Have Kimberly gather more information, choose a number and look at what it looks like
  - 72 records
  - How many programs would have stayed in any way?
  - Could be a part of the policy
- .4 in one tab, .6 tab w/ program alignment, remove ones without training programs
- Flag no training, flag covered by something else, look at remaining to determine variance

**\*Idaho LAUNCH Collections Process**  
**Discussion and Decision tabled**

**Wendi Secrist, Sherawn Reberry**

**Adjourned 3:47 P.M**