

Developing High Skills, High Wages 2008

Work Group Presentation
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Coordinating Board**

Our Charge

- 1991 state legislation:
*“Develop and maintain a state comprehensive
plan for work force training and education...”*
(RCW 28C.18.060, 080)

How will we develop the plan?

- **Youth Work Group:** Career and Technical Education, Dropouts, Guidance, and more.
- **Adult Work Group:** Access to education, successful transitions to work, career/wage progression, improving employment and earning outcomes, and more.
- **Industry Work Group:** Meeting WA's need for skilled workers, industry cluster strategies, public-private partnerships, incumbent worker training, and more.

Work Group Members

- Employers
- Labor and professional associations
- Community-based organizations
- Education (postsecondary and K-12)
- Government (Legislators, state and local agencies)
- Workforce Development Councils
- Diverse representation
- Urban and rural, eastern and western WA

How will we develop the plan?

- Review current economy and demographics
- Review national and local best practices
- Review local strategic plans
- Learn from local and national experts (including work group members)
- Workforce Board discussion
- Prepare draft for public review
- Input via email, phone, letters
- Final draft: summer 2008
- Board adoption: September 2008

How will we develop the plan?

What
limits
us



The
perfect
world

Our success relies on...

- Participation
- Collaboration
- Commitment



High Skills, High Wages 2006: Goals

Goal 1: Youth

Ensure all Washington youth receive the education, training, and support they need for success in postsecondary education and/or work.

Goal 2: Adults

Provide Washington adults, including those with barriers to education and employment, with access to lifelong education, training, and employment services.



High Skills, High Wages 2006: Goals (continued...)

Goal 3: Industry

Meet the workforce needs of industry by preparing students, current workers, and dislocated workers with the skills employers need.

Goal 4: Integration

Integrate services provided by separately funded workforce development programs so that we provide the best possible service to our customers.



10 Strategic Opportunities

1. Increase high school graduation rates
2. Expand the availability of career pathways
3. Increase postsecondary training capacity
4. Increase financial aid and retention support for workforce education students
5. Increase adult basic education and English-as-a-Second Language Instruction that is integrated with occupational skills training



10 Strategic Opportunities (Continued...)

5. Improve coordination between workforce and economic development
6. Expand and sustain skill panels
7. Expand customized training for current workers
8. Expand the availability of the Work Readiness Credential
9. Develop state and local agreements on service integration



How are we doing?

- Annual Progress Report to the Legislature
 - Building Bridges (Dropout Prevention and Retrieval)
 - Navigation 101 expansion (Career guidance)
 - Strengthening secondary career and technical education (Skills Centers, course equivalencies, SSB6377)
 - Expanding postsecondary education (State fund allocations: High Demand Funding)
 - Financial Aid: Opportunity Grants, State Need Grant
 - Support for industry skill panels, industry clusters
 - Integration efforts, customer service improvements



How are we doing?

- Workforce Board works with stakeholders to set performance measures and targets for workforce development programs related to:
 - Employment
 - Earnings
 - Skill Gains
 - Employer Satisfaction
 - Participant Satisfaction
- (See *Workforce Training Results*)



What we ask of you...

- Share your knowledge and expertise
- Respect the contributions and perspectives of others in the group
- Recognize your needs are part of a wider system
- Aim for consensus, falling back to majority agreement (those who disagree will voice their opinion)