

Regional/Local Planning Comparison and Recommendations to Simplify the Process

REGIONAL PLANS (from the Act).— local boards and chief elected officials within a planning region are required to prepare, submit, and obtain approval *of a single regional plan* that includes a description of the regional required activities and that incorporates local plans requirements for each of the local areas in the planning region. The State shall provide technical assistance and labor market data, as requested by local areas, to assist with such regional planning and subsequent service delivery efforts

LOCAL PLAN REQUIREMENT	REGIONAL PLAN REQUIREMENTS	HOW TO ADDRESS THE REQUIREMENT
<p>Economic conditions in the Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analysis of regional economic conditions including existing and emerging in-demand industry sectors and occupations, and their employment needs; - knowledge and skills needed to meet the employment needs of the employers in the region, including employment needs in in-demand industry sectors and occupations; - analysis of the workforce in the region, including current labor force employment/unemployment data, labor market trends, and the educational and skill levels of the workforce in the region, including individuals with barriers to employment; - analysis of the workforce development activities (including education and training) in the region, including an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of such services, and the capacity to provide such services, to address the identified education and skill needs of the workforce and the employment needs of employers in the region; 	<p>Regional Labor Market Data</p> <p>collection and analysis of regional labor market data (in conjunction with the State);</p>	<p>WTECB and ESD provide labor market data based on regions. Some regions may consist of more than one area, and the labor market analysis will show this. There is no need for this to be done on both a local and regional basis. The Act states that “As appropriate, a local area may use an existing analysis in order to carry out the requirements of subsection (b)(1) [labor market analysis] concerning an analysis.”</p>
<p>Service Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local board’s strategic vision and goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce (including youth and individuals with barriers), including goals relating to performance (section 116(b)(2)(A)) in order to support regional economic growth and economic self-sufficiency; taking into account regional analyses, a strategy to work with core programs to align local resources to achieve the strategic vision - description of workforce system in the local area, programs in that system, and how the local board will work with core programs and other programs to support alignment to provide services, including programs of study authorized under the Carl D. Perkins, that support the strategy identified in the State plan under section 102(b)(1)(E); - description of how local board, working with the core programs, will expand access to employment, training, education, and supportive services for eligible individuals, especially those with barriers, including how the board will facilitate development of career pathways and co-enrollment, as appropriate, in core programs, and improve access to activities leading to a recognized postsecondary credential (including a credential that is an industry-recognized certificate or certification, portable, and stackable); 	<p>Regional Service Strategies</p> <p>including use of cooperative service delivery agreements;</p>	<p>“Cooperative service delivery agreements” can be defined in a way that provides maximum flexibility to the WDCs in a planning region. The intent is that local areas are talking to each other and clarifying how best coordinate services on behalf of their regions, not that they create a complicated agreement.</p>

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LOCAL PLAN REQUIREMENT	REGIONAL PLAN REQUIREMENTS	HOW TO ADDRESS THE REQUIREMENT
<p>Business Engagement Strategies and services to engage employers (including small employers, and those in in-demand industry sectors/occupations) in workforce development programs; support local workforce system that meets the needs of businesses in the local area; better coordinate workforce development programs and economic development; and strengthen linkages between the one-stop delivery system and unemployment insurance programs. May include incumbent worker training programs, on-the-job training programs, customized training programs, industry and sector strategies, career pathways initiatives, utilization of effective business intermediaries, and other business services and strategies, designed to meet the needs of employers in region to work with the entities that carry out the core programs to align resources available to the local area, to achieve the strategic vision and goals;</p>	<p>Regional Business Engagement via Sectors development and implementation of for in-demand industry sectors or occupations for the region;</p>	<p>The sectors rubric being developed by a WTECB work group will be integrated into regional/local planning guidance to identify which sector(s) will be addressed locally or regionally. Locals in a multi area region may serve sectors that do not have regional priority, or that are not yet ready for a regional approach. There are a number of phases to sector work, and regions/areas will be able to show where they are in the process of working with a sector.</p>
<p>Cost Arrangements a description of the roles and resource contributions of the one-stop partners; (Memoranda of Understanding and Resource Sharing Agreements)</p>	<p>Regional Cost Arrangements including the pooling of funds for administrative costs, as appropriate, for the region;</p>	<p>The words “as appropriate” provide wide latitude related to pooling resources. WTECB could define cost sharing requirements broadly.</p>
<p>Support Services how local board will coordinate workforce investment activities under title 1 in the local area with the provision of transportation, and other appropriate supportive services in the local area;</p>	<p>Regional Support Services coordination of transportation and other supportive services, as appropriate, for the region;</p>	<p>Again, the Act uses the words “as appropriate”. WTECB could define this very broadly to support local decisions within a region</p>
<p>Economic Development how the local board will coordinate workforce investment activities carried out in the local area with economic development activities carried out in the region in which the local area is located (or planning region), and promote entrepreneurial skills training and microenterprise services;</p>	<p>Regional Economic Development coordination with regional economic development services and providers; and</p>	<p>Combine these elements of the regional and local plan so that WDCs only have to write to this once. It is up to them to decide what “coordination” means in this context.</p>
<p>Performance local levels of performance negotiated with the Governor and chief elected official pursuant to section 116(c), to measure performance of the local area and to be used by the local board to measure performance of the local fiscal agent (where appropriate), eligible providers, and the one-stop delivery system, in the local area;</p>	<p>Regional Performance agreement concerning how the region will collectively negotiate and reach agreement with Governor on local levels of performance for, and report on, the performance accountability measures described in section 116(c), for local areas or the planning region.</p>	<p>The Act does not require a single performance goal for the region, only the negotiation of a process to come to agreement on the performance of local boards in the region. Locals could develop approaches that make sense based on their own dynamics</p>

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Local Requirements that are not Specifically Addressed in Regional Plan Requirements

<p>One-Stop: description of the one-stop delivery system in the local area, including how local board will ensure continuous improvement of eligible providers of services and ensure providers meet employment needs of local employers, workers and jobseekers; how local board will facilitate access to services through the one-stop system, including in remote areas, through use of technology and other means; how one-stop operators and partners, will comply with section 188, if applicable, and applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) regarding physical and programmatic accessibility of facilities, programs and services, technology, and materials for those with disabilities, including providing staff training and support and describe the roles and resource contributions of the one-stop partners;</p>
<p>Adult and Dislocated Worker Services: description and assessment of type and availability of adult and dislocated worker employment and training activities in the area;</p>
<p>Rapid Response: how local board will coordinate workforce investment activities in the local area with statewide rapid response activities, in section 134(a)(2)(A);</p>
<p>Youth Activities: description and assessment of type and availability of youth workforce investment activities in the local area, including activities for youth with disabilities, including identification of successful models of such youth workforce investment activities;</p>
<p>Coordination with Educational Services: description of how the local board will coordinate education and workforce investment activities carried out in the local area with relevant secondary and postsecondary education programs and activities to coordinate strategies, enhance services, and avoid duplication of services;</p>
<p>Coordination with Wagner Peyser: plans and strategies for, and assurances concerning, maximizing coordination of services provided by the State employment service under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.) and services provided in the local area through the one-stop delivery system, to improve service delivery and avoid duplication of services;</p>
<p>Coordination with Adult Literacy: how the local board will coordinate workforce investment activities carried out under this title in the local area with the provision of adult education and literacy activities under title II in the local area, including a description of how the local board will carry out, consistent with subparagraphs (A) and (B)(i) of section 107(d)(11) and section 232, the review of local applications submitted under title II;</p>
<p>Coordination with Vocational Rehabilitation: description of the replicated cooperative agreements (as defined in section 107(d)(11)) between the local board or other local entities described in section 101(a)(11)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 721(a)(11)(B)) and the local office of a designated State agency or designated State unit administering programs carried out under title I of such Act (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.) (other than section 112 or part C of that title (29 U.S.C. 732, 741) and subject to section 121(f) in accordance with section 101(a)(11) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 721(a)(11)) with respect to efforts that will enhance the provision of services to individuals with disabilities and to other individuals, such as cross training of staff, technical assistance, use and sharing of information, cooperative efforts with employers, and other efforts at cooperation, collaboration, and coordination;</p>
<p>Grant Recipient: identification of the entity responsible for the disbursement of grant funds described in section 107(d)(12)(B)(i)(III), as determined by the chief elected official or the Governor under section 107(d)(12)(B)(i);</p>
<p>Procurement: description of the competitive process to be used to award the subgrants and contracts in the local area for activities carried out under this title;</p>
<p>High Performing Boards: the actions the local board will take toward becoming or remaining a high-performing board, consistent with the factors developed by the State board pursuant to section 101(d)(6);</p>
<p>Training Services: how training services under chapter 3 of subtitle B will be provided in accordance with section 134(c)(3)(G), including, if contracts for the training services will be used, how the use of such contracts will be coordinated with the use of individual training accounts under that chapter and how the local board will ensure informed customer choice in the selection of training programs regardless of how the training services are to be provided;</p>
<p>Public input: process used by the local board, to provide an opportunity for public comment, including comment by representatives of businesses and labor organizations, and input into the development of the local plan, prior to submission of the plan;</p>
<p>Technology & Access: description of how one-stop centers are implementing and transitioning to an integrated, technology-enabled intake and case management information system for programs carried out under this Act and programs carried out by one-stop partners; and</p>
<p>Other: such other information as the Governor may require.</p>

Additional information:

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PROCESS FOR LOCAL PLAN SUBMISSION.—Prior to the date on which the local board submits a local plan under this section, the local board shall—

- (1) make available copies of a proposed local plan to the public through electronic and other means, such as public hearings and local news media;
- (2) allow members of the public, including representatives of business, representatives of labor organizations, and representatives of education to submit to the local board comments on the proposed local plan, not later than the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the proposed local plan is made available; and
- (3) include with the local plan submitted to the Governor under this section any such comments that represent disagreement with the plan.

PLAN SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—A local plan submitted to the Governor under this section (including a modification to such a local plan) shall be considered to be approved by the Governor at the end of the 90-day period beginning on the day the Governor receives the plan (including such a modification), unless the Governor makes a written determination during the 90-day period that—

- (1) deficiencies in activities carried out under this subtitle or subtitle B have been identified, through audits conducted under section 184 or otherwise, and the local area has not made acceptable progress in implementing corrective measures to address the deficiencies;
- (2) the plan does not comply with the applicable provisions of this Act; or
- (3) the plan does not align with the State plan, including failing to provide for alignment of the core programs to support the strategy identified in the State plan in accordance with section 102(b)(1)(E).