Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board

2025 Industry Advisory Committee Input

Emily Persky, Workforce Board, Jun. 26, 2026

Guiding questions

1. Are there recommendations you'd like to consider for 2027 legislative priorities? Which ones?
2. What are your expectations for the agency's industry engagement strategies? For the system?
3. Is there anything you want to add or adjust to the list of options that staff will develop for the August Board meeting?
4. What more do you need to know?

Overview

Introductions

Considerations

Preliminary proposals

Board discussion

Introducing

Darlene Edouard, PhD

Director of Education
BRIC Foundation

Considerations

Solutions may already exist—how do we improve access and raise awareness?

What can we improve by changing how we—state agencies, regional partners, schools and industry representatives—work?

What would require legislation? Funding?

Committee members valued in-person engagement (with caveat) and cross-sector connections.

There is a strong desire for practical, actionable tools.

Preliminary proposals (review)

1. Streamlined industry engagement

- Joint industry forums with partner agencies.
- Closer coordination between economic development, workforce development, and education/training partners.
- Targeted engagement for priority sectors and pathways.

2. Frameworks to strengthen state/regional coordination

- Framework for aligning state and regional industry-engagement activities.
- Framework for identifying occupations and coordinating development of cross-sector pathways and credentials for youth and adults.
- Improved access to information on disrupted and in-demand occupations.

3. Improved coordination of employer outreach, communication

- Clearer points of contact
- Consistent messaging and follow-up
- Shared expectations across state agencies

4. Industry-facing tools and resources

- Statewide menu of OJT programs, including state- and federal-registered apprenticeships
- Cross-sector pathways framework
- System map with points of contact for different industry needs

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Continue the conversation

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Washington Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board