  

# California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee February 2024 Agenda Item 04

## Subject

Update on California’s Draft Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024–2027.

## Type of Action

Information

## Summary of the Issue(s)

The California’s Draft Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024–2027 represents agreement among partners identified in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and serves as the framework for the development of public policy, fiscal investment, and operation of the state workforce and education system.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends that the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee provide input and feedback on the Draft Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024–2027 Plan. This may include identifying opportunities for alignment between the Draft Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024–2027 Plan and the Perkins V State Plan.

## Brief History of Key Issues

The federal WIOA was signed into law on July 22, 2014. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. WIOA requires the Governor of each State to submit a State Plan to the Secretary of Labor that includes a four-year strategy for the State’s workforce development system. States must have federally-approved State Plans to receive funding for the WIOA six core programs, three of which are Title I programs.

* WIOA Title I - Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Formula programs
* WIOA Title II - Adult Education and Family Literacy Act program
* WIOA Title III - Wagner-Peyser Employment Service program
* WIOA Title IV - Vocational Rehabilitation program

The current California Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2020–2023 runs through July 2024. Over the past several months, the CWDB has been working with its partners to frame, align, and guide program coordination at the state, local, and regional levels. Through this coordination, the Draft California Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024-2027 was developed using the vision, policy objectives, and strategies outlined below.

**State Plan Vision**

Under the leadership of the Governor and Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, California’s vision for the future of workforce development is centered on the establishment and growth of a High Road workforce system. This High Road system will be focused on meaningful industry engagement and placing Californians in quality jobs that provide economic security.

California is committed to developing a workforce system that enables economic growth and shared prosperity for employers and employees, especially those with barriers to employment, by investing in industry partnerships, job quality, and meaningful skills attainment rather than low wages, contingent employment, and minimal benefits.

**State Plan Policy Objectives**

**Fostering Demand-Driven Skills Attainment**Aligning workforce and education program content with state industry sectors so that California’s employers and businesses are provided with the skilled workforce necessary to compete in the global economy.

**Enabling Upward Mobility for All Californians**  
Ensuring that workforce and education programs are accessible for all Californians, including those with barriers to employment, by prioritizing investments in marketable skills that will lead to quality jobs that provide economic security.

**Aligning, Coordinating, and Integrating Programs and Services**  
Economizing limited resources to achieve scale and impact by ensuring workforce and education programs that operate with common goals work in close collaboration towards a coherent and unified strategy.

**State Plan Strategies**

1. Sector Strategies: Aligning workforce and education programs with leading and emergent industry sectors’ skills needs.
2. Career Pathways: Enabling of progressive skills development through education and training programs using multiple entry and exit points, so that each level of skills development corresponds with labor market gains for those being trained or educated.
3. Regional Partnerships: Building partnerships between industry leaders, including organized labor, workforce professionals, education and training providers, and economic development leaders to develop workforce and education policies that support regional economic growth.
4. Earn and Learn: Using training and education best practices that combine applied learning opportunities with material compensation while facilitating skills development in the context of actual labor market participation.
5. Supportive Services: Providing ancillary services like childcare, transportation, and counseling to facilitate program completion by those enrolled in training and education courses.
6. Creating Cross-System Data Capacity: Using diagnostic labor market data to assess where to invest, and also, the use performance data to assess the value of those investments.
7. Integrated Service Delivery: Braiding resources and coordinating services at the local level to meet client needs.

The Draft State Plan is posted on the CWDB website for a 30-day public comment period ending on February 15, 2024. The Draft and instructions on how to provide comment may be located here: [Public Comment Period - WIOA State Plan PY 2024-27 (ca.gov)](https://edd.ca.gov/en/jobs_and_training/Information_Notices/wsin-23-24/#:~:text=Written%20comments%20will%20be%20accepted,ca.gov%20with%20any%20questions.). The CWDB is soliciting stakeholder input and feedback which will be used to update and finalize the State Plan prior to its submission to the Department of Labor in March 2024.

## Summary of Previous California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee Discussion(s) and Action(s)

Tim Rainey, Executive Director of the CWDB, provided an update on California’s Unified Strategic Workforce Plan to the California Workforce Pathways Joint Advisory Committee at its March 2017 meeting.

## Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate)

**WIOA Program Year 2023–24 – Allotments for California**

* Title I - $439,341,590
* Title II - $116,770,172
* Title III - $81,499,358
* Title IV - $328,770,405

**Title I Programs**

* Youth Program - $121,524,137
* Adult Program - $117,278,022
* Dislocated Worker - $95,038,726

## Attachment(s)

None.