

Willamette Workforce Partnership is the Workforce Development Board serving Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties. We are a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization governed by a board of directors. Our funding is primarily federal and state with other grant funds for specific projects.

Our organization plays a key role in the economic development of our region. The Workforce Development Board brings together a myriad of employment, training, and educational services which comprise a comprehensive system that supports the development of the area's workforce.

Willamette Workforce Partnership leads local workforce development by identifying local labor market needs/trends/priorities and working with the community to address these issues. We do this by developing policy and overseeing the workforce fund investments allocated to Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties. We work to coordinate workforce development strategies and efforts to create strong employer linkages and promote community collaboration through the WorkSource delivery system. This optimizes strong partner relationships, supports efficient resource sharing and networking, and provides local residents with services that help them succeed.

Our board of director membership composition includes over fifty percent representatives from the private sector, with the remaining members representing educational entities, labor organizations, community based organizations, economic development agencies, and other federally required one-stop partners. All board members are appointed by the Jobs Council which is comprised of two county commissioners from each of the four counties we serve.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

WIOA promotes and requires strong partnerships and strategies for the workforce development system and one-stop centers. Funding requirements include providing job seekers and workers with high-quality career services, education and training, and supportive services they need to get good jobs and stay employed. The system helps businesses find skilled workers and access other supports, including education and training for their current workforce.

WIOA empowers State and Local elected officials and private sector-led workforce boards with the responsibility of developing a strategic, integrated plan that supports economic growth and labor force needs intended to grow the capacity and performance of the workforce system.

Local Workforce Development Boards

The primary framework behind the Willamette Workforce Partnership Board is to serve as the community leader and catalyst for alignment of workforce with economic development. The Board provides policy guidance that builds an environment where every person maximizes his or her career potential, and all employers and businesses have the human resources they need to grow and prosper.