

Single vs. Multiple Workforce Development Areas

What is the purpose of the local area?

- To serve as a jurisdiction for the administration of workforce development activities and execution of adult, dislocated worker, and youth funds allocated by the State.
- Local areas are the areas within which Local WDBs oversee their functions, including strategic planning, operational alignment, and service delivery design, and a jurisdiction where partners align resources at a sub-State level to design and implement overall service delivery strategies.

The Governor must designate local areas for the State to receive adult, dislocated worker, and youth funding under title I, subtitle B of WIOA.

What must the state do when there are local areas?

The State must allocate statewide adult, dislocated worker, and youth program to local areas to replicate administrative oversight responsibilities for program administration, performance reporting, fiscal accounting, and monitoring. More complex policies and oversight mechanisms will need to be established for local areas to operate. Additional statewide capacity will need to be built to support a second layer of WIOA implementation.

What are the requirements for designating local workforce areas?

The Governor may designate a local area in accordance with policies and procedures (developed by the Governor) which must include at a minimum consideration of the extent to which the proposed area:

1. Is consistent with local labor market areas
2. Has a common economic development area; and
3. Has the Federal and non-Federal resources, including appropriate education and training institutions, to administer activities under WIOA subtitle B.

What are the requirements for continued designation of a local area?

The Governor approves the requests from a local area to continue designation if the local area can show that over the last two program years the local area has:

1. Performed successfully (in 6 performance measures across six core programs);
2. Sustained fiscal integrity; and
3. Met the regional planning requirements described in

What are the responsibilities of the local workforce area & board?

- Administer workforce development activities, including WIOA adult, dislocated worker, and youth.
- Develop and submit a 4-year local plan for the local area
- Conduct workforce research and regional labor market analysis, including analyses and regular updates of economic conditions, needed knowledge and skills, workforce, and workforce

development (including education and training) activities to include an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses (including the capacity to provide) of such services to address the identified education and skill needs of the workforce and the employment needs of employers

- Convene local workforce development system stakeholders to assist in the development of the local plan and in identifying non-Federal expertise and resources to leverage support for workforce development activities.
- Lead efforts to engage with a diverse range of employers and other entities in the region to
 - Develop effective linkages with employers to support utilization of the local workforce development system,
 - Ensure that workforce investment activities meet the needs of employers,
 - Develop and implement proven or promising strategies for meeting the employment and skill needs of workers and employers,
- Lead efforts in the local area to identify and promote proven and promising strategies and initiatives for meeting the needs of employers, workers and job seekers, and identify and disseminate information on proven and promising practices carried out in other local areas for meeting such needs;
- Develop strategies for using technology to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of the local workforce development system for employers, and workers and job seekers, by:
 - Facilitating connections among the intake and case management information systems of the one-stop partner programs to support a comprehensive workforce development system in the local area;
 - Facilitating access to services provided through the one-stop delivery system;
 - Identifying strategies for better meeting the needs of individuals with barriers to employment, including strategies that augment traditional service delivery, and increase access to services and programs of the one-stop delivery system, such as improving digital literacy skills; and
 - Leveraging resources and capacity within the local workforce development system, including resources and capacity for services for individuals with barriers to employment;
- In partnership with the chief elected official for the local area, conduct oversight of youth workforce investment activities, adult and dislocated worker employment and training activities, and the entire one-stop delivery system in the local area;
- Ensure the appropriate use and management of the funds provided for the youth, adult, and dislocated worker activities and one-stop delivery system in the local area; and
- Ensure the appropriate use management, and investment of funds to maximize performance outcomes under WIOA
- Negotiate and reach agreement on local performance indicators with the chief elected official and the Governor;
- Negotiate with CEO and required partners on the methods for funding the infrastructure costs of one-stop centers in the local area
- Select (and terminate) the following providers in the local area,
 - Providers of youth workforce investment activities through competitive grants or contracts based on the recommendations of the youth standing committee

- Providers of career services through the award of contracts, if the one-stop operator does not provide such services;
- One-stop operators
- Ensure there are sufficient numbers and types of providers of career services and training services serving the local area and providing the services in a manner that maximizes consumer choice, as well as providing opportunities that lead to competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities;
- Coordinate activities with education and training providers in the local area, including:
 - Reviewing applications to provide adult education and literacy activities under WIOA title II for the local area to determine whether such applications are consistent with the local plan;
 - Replicating and implementing cooperative agreements to enhance the provision of services to individuals with disabilities and 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;
- Develop a budget for the activities of the Local WDB, with approval of the chief elected official and consistent with the local plan and the duties of the Local WDB;
- Assess, on an annual basis, the physical and programmatic accessibility of all one-stop centers in the local area and applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act; and
- Certification of one-stop
- The Local WDB must conduct its business in an open manner by making available to the public, on a regular basis through electronic means and open meetings, information about the activities of the Local WDB. This includes:
 - Information about the Local Plan, or modification to the Local Plan, before submission of the plan;
 - List and affiliation of Local WDB members;
 - Selection of one-stop operators;
 - Award of grants or contracts to eligible training providers of workforce investment activities including providers of youth workforce investment activities;
 - Minutes of formal meetings of the Local WDB; and
 - Local WDB by-laws

Key Issues:

- Scale needed to administer all the requirements
- Additional fiscal and program monitoring, evaluation, and oversight required
- Funding for additional activities
- The degree that areas of the state are so distinct as to require different strategies and methods of administration

Key Resources: 20 CFR § 679, 20 CFR § 682, 20 CFR § 683, [TEGL 15-16](#), [TEGL 4-21](#)