

Central Iowa, Regional Workforce Investment Board



Background:

The Regional Workforce Investment Board (RWIB) has oversight responsibility for the workforce development system in the eight central Iowa counties of Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Madison, Marion, Polk, Story, and Warren. This Governor appointed board has 41 voting members from the following sectors:

Business	21	Nominated by business organizations.
Local Education (K-12)	2	Nominated by local education
Organized Labor	5	Nominated by organized labor
Community Based Organizations	2	Nominated by CBO
Economic Development	2	Nominated by Local Econ Dev. groups
County Elected official	1	Nominated by local government
City Official	1	Nominated by local government
Community College	1	Nominated by local education
One Stop Partners	6	Appointed by Governor (CEO)

Since the RWIB is appointed by the Governor's office it is subject to the State policies of maintaining gender and political balance. It is also the desire of the Governor's office and Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) that each county in the region be adequately represented.

RWIB Infrastructure

Initial terms will be two or four years. All subsequent terms and reappointments will be for four years with no limit on the number of terms. The Board will be governed by a chair, vice-chair, and a secretary/treasurer elected annually by majority vote of the Board members.

It is envisioned that the full Board would meet quarterly, with committee work between meetings. At a minimum, committees would include:

- Executive Committee responsible for general supervision of the Board, coordination with related workforce and economic development entities, the priorities and agendas, Board budget, draft policies including by-laws, and review of potential grant opportunities.
- One-Stop Operations responsible for the review of the One-Stop center operations, budgets, staffing, integration of programs, and performance.
- Nomination Committee to identify candidates to fill periodic vacancies. This committee will work closely with the Executive Director and Governor's office.

At a minimum, the Board and committees will be staffed by Michael Wilkinson, Executive Director, Iowa Works and his assistant. A budget will be provided for voting members to cover expenses related to travel and other meeting expenses

Roles and Responsibilities

The primary roles and responsibilities of the Regional Workforce Investment Board include the following:

1. Promoting the participation of private sector employers, labor, education, and non-profit organizations in the workforce development system, and ensuring the availability of services to assist employers and workers in meeting workforce development needs.
 - a. Garner a greater understanding of the gaps in services and work with the One-stop and local service providers to address those gaps; conduct local and regional workforce needs assessments and adjust strategies based on economic conditions.
 - b. Communicate and coordinate workforce development priorities with groups and organizations representing employers and workers.
2. Coordinating the services of the One-Stop Center with economic development strategies, and developing other employer linkages with these activities.
 - a. Align workforce priorities with Central Iowa Works and other regional economic development groups to address the needs of high growth industries and occupations;
 - b. Identify new and emerging occupations and coordinate the development of career pathways for those occupations with Central Iowa Works.
 - c. Identify opportunities for customized training opportunities to help address the Boards priorities.
3. Selecting service providers for the delivery of grant funded activities including Workforce Investment Act adult and dislocated worker intensive services, and youth programs.
4. Establishing policy for the region's Workforce Development Center system.
5. Developing a budget to carry out the duties of the local board.
6. Submitting an Annual Report to the State Workforce Development Board.
7. Establishing cooperative relationships with other local boards.
8. Negotiating and reaching agreement with IWD on local performance standards.
9. Appointing a Youth Advisory Council.