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WIOA Regional Planning Follow-up

December 2, 2015



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Regional Planning FAQ:

- Planning Process Overview
- FAQ Review
- Next Steps





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Planning Process Overview – Vision

WIOA requires the State, regional and local workforce plans be developed in concert with the core partners and stakeholders. Illinois' planning process begins with the state's vision and guiding principles as established by a State Leadership Team comprised of business, workforce, education, and state agency officials.

Vision
"Business driven talent solutions that integrate education, workforce and economic development resources across systems to provide businesses, individuals, and communities with the opportunity to prosper and contribute to growing the state's economy."

Guiding Principles

- Demand Driven Orientation
- Strong Partnerships with Business at All Levels
- Career Pathways to Today's and Tomorrow's Jobs
- Cross-agency Collaboration and Alignment
- Integrated Service Delivery
- Access and Opportunity for all Populations
- Clear Metrics for Progress and Success
- Focus on Continuous Improvement and Innovation

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Planning Process Overview – Strategies

This vision and principles inform six strategies that the State Interagency Team comprised of the WIOA core partners and required one-stop partners will use to guide the State Unified Plan. The vision, principles and key strategies developed at the state-level are the foundation to the regional planning process and plans.

- Improve and expand employer-driven regional sector partnerships
- Expand career pathway opportunities
- Expand career services and opportunities for populations facing multiple barriers
- Expand information for employers and job-seekers to access services
- Improve the Illinois public-private data infrastructure

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Planning Process Overview

Data Driven Approach

- Regional planning activities began with an extensive data analysis conducted by a state level interagency team. The data analysis identifies growth industry sectors for the ten economic development regions. Regional Teams will receive regional data to assist them in identifying and prioritizing target industries in their region.

Readiness Assessment

- The next activity facilitated by Maher & Maher involves determining a region's readiness for planning through a self-assessment exercise followed by one-day Regional Meetings in December. Through these meetings, a team of individuals from the respective 10 economic development regions will come together and use the data analysis to inform capacity building and/or expand partnerships, develop cross-agency collaborations, identify services and leverage resources to support employment needs of the region/local areas.

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Planning Process Overview

Regional Action Plans

- In January 2016 teams will come together to focus on action-oriented planning. It is important to note planning does not stop between December and January so Regional Teams should continue to meet and work on plans. The foundational data analysis and the development of regional strategies, goals and action plans must be incorporated in the local workforce area plans.
- The planning process for the both the state and regions is an ongoing effort that is just beginning with this December meeting. While the Unified State Plan is due on March 3, 2016, the Regional Plans do not have to be in place until July 1, 2016.

Local Workforce Area Plans

- The local plan will identify specific activities and resources that will support the implementation of the regional plan as well as discuss the mechanics for the integrated and coordinated delivery of services. The expanded role of the Local Boards requires that the development of both the regional and local plan occur under the direction of the Board and its partners. It is anticipated that the local plan will need to be submitted to the State with an effective date of July 1, 2016.

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General

There is a lot of confusion among partners about the integrated regional planning process. What is the purpose of the December meetings and the work that might follow?

- **Goal:** assist multi-partner teams (with strong business engagement) in each of the state's 10 economic regions in developing regional plans aligned to the state's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) plan principles and strategies and the particular needs of the regions.
- Regional plans will integrate workforce development, economic development, and education strategies and resources across partners and programs in support of regional industry sector partnerships that increase businesses' competitiveness and expand career opportunities for more individuals, leading to communities with the opportunity to prosper and contribute to growing the state's economy.
- During the December Regional Meetings, regional teams will analyze both demand and supply data in key industry sectors to inform the development of their initial regional plans.
- Regional teams will continue their plan development and work together following the December meetings, with coaching support from Maher & Maher facilitators. Teams will also attend a Statewide Summit in early 2016 (date to be determined), and will continue their plan development work following the Summit.
- Strategies and recommendations that come from the Regional Planning process will influence and inform the State Plan. While the state has provided a framework through the vision and principles, the Unified Plan will reflect the regional and local planning processes.
- **Maher & Maher facilitators will continue to provide technical assistance support to regional teams through March 2016. Teams are expected to finalize their regional WIOA plans by July 1, 2016.**

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General

What are the specific expectations of workforce agencies in the regional planning project?

- WIOA requires that the State set the framework for developing regional plans in consultation with Local Workforce Innovation Boards and Chief Elected Officials. As membership of the LWIB includes business, labor, apprenticeship, and other workforce partners, it is each respective member's responsibility to participate in the development.
- The framework set forth includes the State providing technical assistance and labor market data so that regions can establish service strategies for sector initiatives in demand industry or occupations, agree on cost arrangements for pooling of funds on administrative costs, delivery of supportive services, coordination of services among service providers in the region, and negotiation of performance measures. Our current regional planning process underway meets this requirement.

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General

We understand that this integrated regional planning project follows a "Phase 1" project in which Commerce and the Illinois Community College Board hosted forums in all of the state's 10 economic development regions. Where can we download any report(s) that came out of the Phase 1 project?

- In early 2015, Commerce and ICCB in partnership with the Council of Community College Presidents did host regional forums to inform the community college strategic planning process. These forums were an opportunity for businesses, workforce, and education partners to come together to develop strategies that will expand and enhance Illinois' ability to attract businesses and develop educational opportunities to support students' success as they prepare to enter the workforce. **Once the final reports released, regional planning teams will be provided a copy to inform the regional planning underway.**

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Regional Team

What are the roles and responsibilities of the regional team point of contact (POC)?

- The team POC is the logistical and communications liaison to other team members and to the team's Maher & Maher facilitator. This individual is responsible for sharing information with all other team members, coordinating communications with the team and the team's facilitator, inviting new members into the team, coordinating scheduling of team calls and meetings, and maintaining an updated roster of regional team members.

Who is responsible for reaching out to additional team members, engaging them in the team, and educating them about this process?

- Team members should jointly determine if key regional partners or assets are missing from the team. Once identified, the team should engage new members, share information, and educate them about the regional planning process.

Who is responsible for inviting team members, specifically the WIOA core partners, to the December meeting? We assume the core partner agencies will send their own invitations.

- The team points of contact are responsible for inviting all team members to the December Regional Meetings, including the WIOA core partner team members. Individual core partner agencies are not responsible for inviting their particular team members. Team POCs are responsible for coordinating all information sharing and communications with all team members.

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Regional Team

What are the roles and responsibilities of the regional teams?

- Teams will attend the December Regional Meetings and Statewide Summit slated for early 2016, and will be responsible for planning activities at, in between, and after those meetings.
- Prior to the December Regional Meetings, teams should be working together to ensure that key regional partners from business, workforce development, economic development, education, and human services are engaged on the team. Ensuring that business is center in team development is essential to the planning process.
- As preparation for the December meetings, team members will participate in a self-assessment exercise designed to help determine each region's readiness relative to the project vision, the eight principles in Illinois's NGA Policy Academy summary, and the six strategies in the WIOA state plan outline. These self-assessments are part of the agenda for the day.
- Throughout the process and beyond, regional teams should advocate for and lead the development of strategies, resource alignment among partners, and integrated services in each region over the long-term.

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Regional Team

We do not know several of our team members. How was the initial regional team members identified? Who identified them?

- The WIOA State Interagency Teams worked together to identify initial team members in each region that represent WIOA core/required partners, economic development, and human services/community development. These regional teams will work with Maher & Maher facilitators to expand and diversify their membership ensuring that major regional partners and assets are represented and engaged in the planning process going forward. This process is also an opportunity to get to know new regional partners and initiate new or expand existing partnership efforts.

Are the final team members those emailed by the Maher & Maher facilitators, or can we add additional individuals to our team?

- The individuals that Maher & Maher facilitators emailed the week of November 9th were the initial team members identified by the State Interagency Team. These Regional teams will work to expand and diversify their membership beyond the initial members to ensure that major regional partners and assets are represented and engaged, as appropriate to each region.

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Regional Team

Is there a size limit on teams?

- There is not a formal size limit on teams; however, they need to strike a balance between diverse partner representation and size manageability. While teams should be broadly representative of the range of regional partners and assets, it is also critical that team members be willing participants that are eager to engage in the process and are committed to serving as educators and champions among others in the region.
- For the December Regional Meetings, teams should ideally be no larger than 25 people; it will be difficult for teams larger than that size to work together effectively, and difficult for facilitators to work with extremely large teams in a productive way.
- Please keep in mind that the team that attends the December meetings will very likely be smaller than the larger team that works together over time on regional planning. December is just the formal beginning of the team's planning work together. Regional planning work will continue over several months and the full range of partners should be integrated into that process, though not all partners may attend the December meeting.

The identified adult education programs are community based or in community colleges - there are other providers such as school districts and ROE. Will teams include these entities?

- While it is up to each Regional Planning Team to determine the composition of the teams, interested parties may reach out to a POC for inclusion. The POC is identified in the above chart.

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December Meetings

What exactly is the expected output of the December meetings?

- During the December meetings, regional teams will discuss self-assessment results and participate in a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) exercise to inform their regional plan development work together.
- They will also discuss and explore existing regional industry sector partnerships and related resources (data, studies, etc.) that can support sector partnership work.
- Teams will explore demand and supply data for several industry sectors, and will select one sector upon which to focus their initial regional plan development. During several facilitated sessions, teams will then work to develop their initial plans for creating and/or expanding industry sector partnerships, including both demand- and supply-side strategic priorities, responsible parties, and timelines. Regional teams will continue to develop their plans following the December meetings. The agenda is available at the [WIOA-Implementation Page](#).

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Regional Team

Who is responsible for managing and updating team membership rosters?

- The team point of contact. See list below. These are also available on the [WIOA-Implementation Page](#).

December 9 – Effingham – Effingham Performance Center				
Region Name	Region	LWIA	Point of Contact	Email
East Central	2	17, 18	Lisa Benson	lbenson@ccrpc.org
Southeastern	7	23	Gerry Schlechte	gschlechte@lakelandcollege.edu
Southern	8	25, 26	Kathy Lively	kathylively@mantracon.org
Southwestern	9	22, 24	Rick Stubblefield	rubblefield@co-st-clair.il.us
December 10 – Bloomington – ISU Brown Ballroom				
Region Name	Region	LWIA	Point of Contact	Email
Central	1	19, 20, 21	Anne Schneider	aschneider@worknet20.org
North Central	3	15	Steve Martin	smartin@careerlink16.com
Northwest	6	4, 13	Pam Furlan	pmfurlan@aol.com
West Central	10	14	Blanche Shoup	lwa14@grics.net
December 11 – Chicago – Moraine Valley College				
Region Name	Region	LWIA	Point of Contact	Email
Northeast	4	1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11	Jennifer Senno-Stasch	jsenno@stke.com/ny.gov
Northern	5	3	Joanna Green	jgreene@workforceboard.com
			Darcy Bucholz	dbucholz@theworkforceconnection.org

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December Meetings

- **December 9 - 11 – Regional Meetings**
 - **December 9 – Effingham – Effingham Performance Center**
 - Region 2 – LWIA 17 & LWIA 18
 - Region 7 – LWIA 23
 - Region 8 – LWIA 25 & LWIA 26
 - Region 9 – LWIA 22 & LWIA 24
 - **December 10 – Bloomington – TBD**
 - Region 1 – LWIA 19, 20 & LWIA 21
 - Region 3 – LWIA 15
 - Region 6 – LWIA 4 & LWIA 13
 - Region – 1- LWIA 14
- **December 11 – Chicago – Moraine Valley College**
 - Region 4 –
 - LWIA 1, LWIA 2, LWIA 5, LWIA 6, LWIA 7, LWIA 8, LWIA 10, & LWIA 11
 - Region 5 – LWIA 3
- **Late January - Statewide Summit - TBD**



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December Meetings

Agenda

- 2 data-related plenary sessions
- 3 breakout sessions
- Self-assessment debrief/SWOT
- Demand-side data analysis
- Report-out at the end

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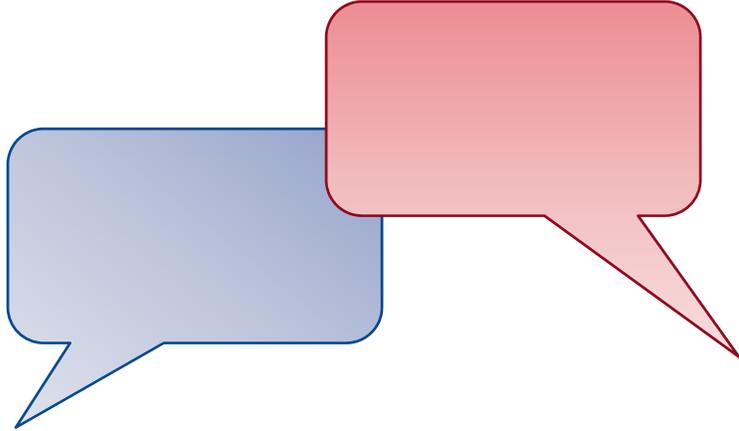
Next Steps

- Reach out to Point of Contact
- Participate in and support ongoing regional planning process



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Questions



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