



Illinois Workforce Innovation Board

Bruce Rauner, Governor

John Rico, Co-Chair
Sean McCarthy, Co-Chair

TDL Task Force Meeting
January 17th, 2017
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Present: Grailing Jones, Don Schaefer, Debbie Halvorson, Megan Younkin, Rick Dickens, Ron Payne, Todd Lowery, John Jones, Mary Ann Merano, Dave Gallagher, Trina Whatley, Maria Viteri Hart, Pedro Vignettes, Cheryl Freeman, Mike Baker, Hannah Temeyer

TDL Task Force Teams continue working together to refine and test model solutions. Teams are collaborating to further develop model solutions, define potential best practices, and raise awareness of the industry in order to prepare for the upcoming meeting on January 31st. The following items were discussed during the January 17th conference call:

TEAM UPDATES

Group 1, Model 1: Employer / Armed Forces Private Public Partnership (P3) Employment

Illinois is one of the largest exit ramps in the Great Lakes for military, and not all employers are familiar with outreach strategies for this group. Many of those who exit stay within the area if they understand employment opportunities available to them.

Group 1, Model 2: Transforming Job Fairs to Hiring Events

A CDL Driver Hiring Event was held in McHenry County with the assistance of the McHenry County Workforce Network. Illinois workNet One-Stop Centers like this can provide assistance in hosting events, helping with career placements, and sending email blasts to clients about upcoming events. The next hiring event will take place in Lake County, on January 24th.

Groups 1 & 3: K-12 Awareness

Truck driver visits to K-12 schools is one way to raise awareness of the trucking industry. Additional information can be sent home with students to reach parents who may have an interest in the industry.

Group 4: Graduated CDL license for Drivers Under 21

Maria Hart is reviewing FMCSA's Under 21 Pilot Program that allows those with military driving experience, who are under 21 years of age, to drive interstate trucks. This information will support Bence's Graduated CDL briefing.

INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING (IWT) FOR DISPATCHERS

A significant root cause of driver attrition is dissatisfaction with dispatchers, who often do not understand the basic federal limits placed on drivers and/or fail to partner with drivers as a problem-solving resource. This frequently establishes a hostile relationship where dispatchers assign drivers unrealistic routes.

Training opportunities include:

- Awareness of drivers' hours when assigning pickups, as well as awareness of additional driver regulations and rules of service
- Basic dispatcher knowledge, such as what to do and how to behave (i.e. trust, empathy, coaching for productivity/efficiency)
- How to interact with drivers as a resource, not as a point of conflict

Additional training could include others involved in the transportation process, such as those managing dispatchers, warehouse supervisors and loaders etc. This type of training is a potential opportunity for schools like Olive Harvey.

Follow up: Megan, Debbie, Maria, Cheryl, and others interested will have a follow-up call to discuss implementing this type of training.

MIDWEST TRANSPORTATION TRUCKERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

February 2-4 | Peoria, IL

Don Schaefer and Rick Dickens will work on outreach with members at the convention to bring attention to CDL engagement in K-12 schools. The Truck Show is free and open to those interested. Rick will provide more information about the convention at the task force meeting on January 31st.

POTENTIAL PROMISING PRACTICES

- Offering training to help dispatchers understand the laws and regulations pertaining to drivers
- Defining and implementing driver pre-hire steps to increase driver retention
- Promoting and executing Incumbent Worker Training for dispatchers (see above)
- Developing a driver retention incentive program for dispatchers
- Providing mentors for truck drivers
- Participating in trade shows/conventions, such as Midwest Transportation Truckers Association Convention

NEXT STEPS TIMELINE

January

1/31 – Full Task Force Meeting at Rockford, IL Workforce Office: Presentations of model solutions.
Timeframe: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Location: 303 North Main Street Rockford, IL 61101

February

2/15 – Full Task Force Conference Call: Final review of solutions

March

– Update to IWIB: Prepare recap and preliminary findings & recommendations

March - May

– Draft and finalize report for submission to IWIB. Submit to IWIB by Memorial Day

June

– Presentation at the IWIB 2017 Meeting: Each group will deliver model solutions and share recommendations. All Task Force members will be invited to attend.