

10:00 Welcome and Introductions

10:15 Next Generation Sector Partnerships: Why This, Why Now?

Sector Strategies are the “organizing vehicle” for a truly demand driven system, but when you scratch beneath the surface, confusion and significant variation in approach quickly becomes apparent.

- What’s the distinction between sector strategies and employer engagement, industry sectors and industry clusters?
- Where do career pathways fit into this work?
- Are sector initiatives ongoing, regular meetings, or short-term interventions based on industry’s acute needs?
- Is working with industry trade groups the way to go?
- What’s “regional” really mean?

This session will provide a greater understanding of sector strategies and a game plan for moving to the “next generation” of sector work for Illinois.

11:15 Small Table Discussions – What does this all mean for regions in IL?

- What “cracked open” for you from this content and message?
- What seems most different about this approach to industry engagement?
- What seems to be a nuanced difference but perhaps with different outcomes?
- What can happen in your region and with your partners that pushes your sector work to the “next generation”?

12:00 Lunch Break

12:30 Simulated Industry “Launch” Meeting

This workshop is a highly interactive, hands-on training for planning and facilitating a “launch” meeting of a sector partnership, including role playing by participants as company CEOs and a facilitated, 3- stage-meeting process:

- 1) industry opportunities to compete;
- 2) industry driven priority actions;
- 3) industry commitments to action, next steps and organizing.

Learn effective ways for direct industry engagement, touch up your facilitation skills, and be ready to role-play!

2:00 Open Topic Q&A and Discussion

Don’t be shy. This is our collective opportunity to dig into the hard questions we’re still sitting with, and to walk away feeling more prepared to participate in or lead strong sector partnerships.

2:45 Wrap up: What’s Next for Illinois

3:00 Adjourn