

Workforce & Talent Development Board

Orientation Guide

Welcome!

Congratulations on your appointment to the Workforce and Talent Development Board (WTDB)! We are grateful for the time you have invested in applying to become a member and we look forward to working with you on important workforce-related issues and solutions.

As you may know, the WTDB advises the Governor on workforce policy and plans while contributing to the economic success of Oregon. The Board was created by the Governor to assist in establishing and coordinating workforce programs in Oregon, including, but not limited to the implementation of the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act \(WIOA\)](#) and [Oregon Revised Statutes 660.300 to 660.364](#). The WTDB also functions as the primary advisory committee to the Employment Department per [Oregon Revised Statute 660.324](#).

We also want to thank you for your willingness and commitment to serve on the board as we work together to improve Oregon's workforce system and realize our vision of equitable prosperity for all Oregonians. The WTDB's mission is to advance Oregon through meaningful work, training, and education by empowering people and employers.

The Oregon Workforce and Talent Development Board (WTDB) enables meaningful work for all Oregonians by:

- Leading and communicating a long-term vision for Oregon that anticipates and acts on future workforce needs.
- Advising the Governor and legislature on workforce policy and plans.
- Aligning public workforce policy, resources, and services with employers, education, training, and economic development.
- Identifying barriers, providing solutions, and avoiding duplication of services.
- Promoting accountability among public workforce partners.
- Sharing best practices and innovative solutions that are scalable statewide and across multiple regions.

The WTDB Values being:

- **Inclusive:** We invite and represent all voices to strengthen our workforce system.
- **Collaborative:** We proactively engage all stakeholders as a hub for consensus-building.
- **Bold:** We courageously take risks to influence and persuade action.

The WTDB strives to have a strong reputation as:

- **National leaders:** We are innovative role models who set and share best practices.
- **Conveners:** We bring all stakeholders together to solve our most pressing challenges.
- **Connectors:** We anticipate and respond to all Oregon communities (tribal, rural, urban, and others)

And, be known for:

- **Results:** We connect our initiative to outcomes.
- **Accountability:** We communicate transparently with easy to understand and agreed upon metrics.

The WTDB has **four imperatives:**

- An inclusive workforce system that advances equitable prosperity.
- Strategic alignment of systems and partners toward shared workforce goals.
- Clear understanding of and improved use and impact of the workforce system.
- Accountable Workforce System Leadership.

As a member of the WTDB, you will play an important role in helping the Governor assure that public and private investments into workforce development are effective, efficient, and responsive to local business and job seeker needs by providing advice and recommending strategic direction. Your role on the WTDB will be to serve as one of many advisors on strategy and policy matters to the Governor who is responsible for the management and administration of policy. The WTDB studies existing policy and makes recommendations for change or implementation. Although the WTDB does not have final authority to make or enforce rules, in the areas of board research, strategic direction, and advice to decision makers the WTDB contributes to effective policy and transformational change in state

government and Oregon's entire workforce system.

Materials on the [Workforce and Talent Development Board Website About Us page](#) explain the history of workforce development in Oregon, the various federal and state laws that define some of the Board's work, the membership of the Board, and how federal, state, and local partners are working better together to build a more skilled workforce in Oregon. In addition, the [Governor's Membership Handbook for Boards and Commissions](#) will help you understand your role and the role of the WTDB.

If you have any questions or need additional information or materials on a specific project, please contact WTDB staff.

- **Director:** Todd Nell
 - (503) 508-8916 or todd.a.nell@hecc.oregon.gov
- **Board Administrator:** Alea Soboloski
 - (503) 979-3823 or alea.soboloski@hecc.oregon.gov
- **WTDB Initiatives Analyst:** Clay Martin
 - (503) 779-5450 or clay.martin@hecc.oregon.gov

Once again, thank you for your commitment to improving Oregon's workforce system and the customers it serves!