



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 a variety of workforce issues.

As you may know, the WTDB advises the Governor on workforce policy and plans, and contributes 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](#)¹ and Oregon Revised Statutes [660.300 to 660.364](#)². The WTDB also functions as the primary advisory committee to the Employment Department per Oregon Revised Statute [660.324](#)³.

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 a strong state economy with prosperous communities fueled by skilled workers, quality jobs, and thriving businesses. The WTDB mission⁴ is to contribute to the economic success of Oregon by:

- Aligning state workforce policy and resources with education and economic development;
- Promoting a proactive, flexible and innovative talent development system; and,
- Holding the workforce system accountable for results to ensure Oregonians develop the skills they need to sustain rewarding careers and businesses have the talent they need to be competitive.

The goals of the Workforce and Talent Development Board include:

- Creating a customer-centric workforce system that is easy to access, highly effective, and simple to understand;
- Providing business and industry customized workforce solutions to prepare and deliver qualified and viable candidates and solutions that advance current workers;
- Investing in Oregonians to build in-demand skills, match training and job seekers to opportunities, and accelerate career momentum; and

¹ <https://www.doleta.gov/WIOA/>

² https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors660.html

³ https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors660.html

⁴ More information on the WTDB Mission and Guiding Principles can be found at www.oregon.gov/owib.



- Creating and developing talent by providing young people with information and experiences that engage their interests, spur further career development, and connect to Oregon employers.

As a member of the Workforce and Talent Development Board, you will play an important role in helping the Governor assure that public investments into workforce development are effective, efficient, and responsive to local needs by providing advice and recommending strategic direction. Your role on the WTDB will be to serve as one of many advisors on policy matters to the Governor, who is responsible for the management and administration of the 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, board research, strategic direction, and advice to decision makers contributes to effective changes in state government and Oregon's workforce system.

Materials in the WTDB New Member Handbook 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 together to build a better workforce in Oregon. In addition, [The Governor's Membership Handbook for Boards and Commissions](#)⁵ will help you understand your role and the role of the Workforce and Talent Development Board.

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

- Todd Nell, WTDB Director, at 503-947-2406 or todd.a.nell@oregon.gov; or
- Clay Martin, WTDB and Workforce Initiatives Program Analyst, at 503-934-0910 or clay.martin@oregon.gov.

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

⁵ http://www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/Pages/How_To_Apply.aspx