

**1. *What will be the state structure for planning, implementing, and evaluating the strategic objectives of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in Oregon?***

The Oregon state level planning process has two major components, strategic and operational. The strategic component will be guided by the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) strategic plan. The OWIB strategic plan is currently being created; subcommittees and local area focus groups were formed to provide input. The operational aspects of the planning process are being shaped by staff representing the core programs (Titles I, II, III, and IV) that serve on state level planning teams such as the Workforce Policy Implementation Team (WPIT), the WIOA Implementation Team (WIT), and a variety of subgroups. The WPIT is a policy decision making group comprised of core program leads. The WIT is a staff level group of the core programs that explores policies and issues related to WIOA core program operations. Multiple subgroups are being convened to provide input to the WIT on specific areas of WIOA planning and implementation, such as the Eligible Training Provider List.

**2. *What will be the management and partnership implications of local workforce area reorganization?***

With the restructuring of local workforce areas, new management structures and partnerships need to be established. The formation of new workforce areas and associated boards will require time to develop and significant guidance from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD), Workforce Division. Creation of new areas is disruptive to existing partnerships; however, it provides the opportunity for partners to build new relationships.

**3. *What will be the suggested strategies for formalizing partnerships?***

Both formal and informal strategies are suggested for establishing local partnerships. The strategy for formalizing partnerships in WIOA is the creation of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for local partners participating in the one-stop system. Local workforce boards may work to develop umbrella MOUs with service providers. Informal strategies for local partnership development may include forming a local leadership team comprised of representatives from local service providers who will be present in the one-stop and/or on the local workforce board. Local leadership teams present an opportunity to learn more about area partners, explore similarities and differences, and establish points of contact with specific WIOA related expertise.

**4. *Is there a “mock” example of a request for applications (RFA) for Title II?***

There is not a “mock” example of a RFA for Title II at this time. An overview of the proposed RFA process taken directly from the WIOA and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) [Docket ID ED-2015-OCTAE-003] appear on the Title II-WIOA webpage, <http://wioa.weebly.com/wioa-title-ii---adult-education-and-literacy.html>.

Office of Community Colleges & Workforce Development  
WIOA Title II - Frequently Asked Questions 08.21.15

---

**5. *How will data be used most effectively for planning?***

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) data is different from the performance data requirements under WIOA. Currently, the most effective way to use data in WIOA planning is to look for and close existing data gaps. Programs can prepare for WIOA by establishing data collection methods, refining reporting procedures, and standardizing assessment cycles

**6. *Who will determine the state level required partners?***

The Governor will determine who the required partners will be in the Oregon Combined Plan. The federal law identifies: Title I – Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth; Title II – Adult Education and Family Literacy; Title III – Wagner-Peysner; and Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation as core programs that are required to participate. The proposed partners in the Oregon Combined Plan include, but may not be limited to: Career and Technical Education, Jobs for Veterans, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Trade Adjustment Assistance, and Unemployment Insurance.

**7. *How will oversight at the state level occur? Will there be opportunities to work in larger groups on aspects of the new model rather than independently reinventing the work?***

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) will provide oversight of Title II provider outcomes. There are opportunities for community colleges to work together in venues such as the Oregon Career Pathways Alliance, Oregon Council for Adult Basic Skills Development, WIOA Workgroup, and Oregon Presidents Council to collectively shape aspects of the new model. Community colleges are strongly encouraged to engage with their local workforce investment boards in the local planning process.

**8. *What will be the consequences for performance failure?***

WIOA identifies sanctions as consequences for not meeting performance and/or reporting outcomes. Performance success or failure will be based solely on the core programs consistent with sec. 116 (b)(2) and (f)(1) of WIOA. Sanctions must be assessed if a state fails to meet adjusted levels of performance or to submit annual reports on time. A five percent sanction of the Governor's Reserve allotment will occur for each failure; however, the maximum sanction that could be applied in any given program year is 10 percent of the Governor's Reserve. Technical assistance will be provided, as appropriate, by the Secretaries of Labor and Education and development of a performance improvement plan will occur in any year that a state fails to meet its adjusted performance levels.

**9. *What will be the best strategies for sharing data and enrollment activities with partners?***

WIOA identifies the establishment of formal agreements to guide data sharing. The best strategies to prepare for data sharing and co-enrollment include engaging partners in conversations and becoming involved in the local planning process.

***10. Does the state have a vision for the workforce system and have strategies been developed to support that vision?***

The Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) is currently developing a strategic plan that will provide the state vision for the workforce system as well as crafting goals and strategies to guide future work.

***11. Could the state and directors be misinterpreting WIOA guidance?***

Yes, it is feasible that the state and directors are misinterpreting WIOA guidance. The development of guidelines from the federal government is ongoing and our understanding evolves as more information becomes available.

***12. Could ABS courses be taught only or mostly at WorkSource Oregon Centers?***

Adult education and family literacy classes may be taught at WorkSource Oregon Centers, if the local adult education provider decides to do so in agreement with one-stop partners. The local provider may or may not offer courses in WorkSource Oregon Centers. The provider will determine in collaboration with local one-stop partners how to best participate in WorkSource Oregon Centers and certified comprehensive one-stop centers.

***13. Will undocumented Adult Basic Skills (ELL) students no longer be served?***

Title II funds are not to be used for the purpose of supporting or providing programs, services, or activities for individuals who are not eligible as defined in the Act. Based on our current knowledge of WIOA, undocumented students will not be served under Title II funds. However, undocumented students may be served with general funds or other resources.

***14. When do Title II representatives need to be on the local workforce board?***

The state and local workforce boards have been formed. Several local workforce boards are using 2015-2016 to transition to the requirements under WIOA. Many Title II representatives are already on local workforce boards. To learn more about your local board members, please contact your local workforce development board <http://www.oregonwfpartnership.org/contact-us.html>.

***15. Who is representing Title II and the community colleges on the state level WIOA workgroups?***

Dan Findley, Director, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) and State ABS Director, represents Title II on the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB). He also serves on the Workforce Policy Implementation Team (WPIT). Jessica Howard, President, Portland Community College – Southeast Campus represents community colleges and higher education on the OWIB. Jaime Clarke serves as staff for the CCWD Adult Basic Skills Team representing Title II and community college interests on the WPIT and the WIOA Implementation Team.

***16. When will the Request for Application (RFA) for Title II be available?***

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) will release a competitive request for applications (RFA) for WIOA Title II funds between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. The CCWD will follow guidance from the US Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE). OCTAE will direct the timeline for the release of the RFA.

***17. Who are the decision makers in WIOA at the state level?***

The key decision makers in WIOA at the state level include the Governor, members of the Oregon Workforce Investment Board, and core program agency leads including: the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD); the Oregon Employment Department (OED); and the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS), Vocational Rehabilitation. Other decision makers include agency leads from Oregon Combined Plan partners such as: OED Trade Adjustment Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and Jobs for Veterans; Oregon Department of Education, Career and Technical Education, Carl D. Perkins; DHS, Self-Sufficiency Programs (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families).

***18. Could the local workforce board decide who will receive Title II contracts under WIOA?***

No. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) is the eligible agency for Title II. The CCWD will administer the competitive request for applications (RFA) and award Title II contracts. Local Boards will participate in the RFA process by reviewing a provider's application for Title II funds and commenting on alignment with the local workforce plan.

***19. Will there be a gap in funding between WIA and WIOA?***

We do not anticipate a gap in funding. We anticipate that WIA funding will be extended until WIOA implementation begins.

***20. Will we be able to provide Spanish GED instruction with WIOA Title II funds?***

Under Title II WIA, using Title II funds for instruction in Spanish was not permissible and we do not anticipate any changes from WIA to WIOA regarding the Spanish GED and/or instruction in Spanish or other languages.