

# CAREERSOURCE FLORIDA AT A GLANCE

## Collaborate. Innovate. Lead.

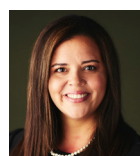
**WHO WE ARE:** As the state's principal workforce policy organization, CareerSource Florida is a key contributor to efforts to develop and sustain a skilled workforce to meet the demands of Florida's growing economy. CareerSource Florida, the state policy and investment board, is joined in its important work by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, administrative entity for state workforce programs; 24 locally managed workforce development boards; and nearly 100 career centers — known collectively as the CareerSource Florida network. The current workforce system structure was set in 2000 through landmark, bipartisan state legislation, the Florida Workforce Innovation Act.

The Florida Legislature unanimously passed another landmark workforce and education systems bill, the Reimagining Education and Career Help (REACH) Act, that was signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis and took effect July 1, 2021. The REACH Act is a comprehensive blueprint for supporting the needs of the state's evolving economy through a more integrated, customer-focused and accountable workforce development ecosystem that spans Florida's education, workforce and public assistance programs. The law seeks to increase collaboration, improve training and enhance equity and access for all Floridians.

**WHAT WE DO:** CareerSource Florida works with partners in business and industry, education, economic development and community development to achieve our vision to make Florida the global leader for talent, and we fulfill our mission with honesty, accountability and transparency.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** Building and maintaining a skilled workforce is essential not only for Florida businesses, but also to ensuring Florida communities are vibrant and prosperous and their residents have access to good jobs and careers. As a recognized leader in Florida's talent ecosystem, the CareerSource Florida network is committed to addressing the talent needs of today and tomorrow. Last year, the network assisted nearly **86,500 job seekers**, including more than **4,100 veterans**, and provided services to more than **50,700 businesses**.

**LEADERSHIP:** CareerSource Florida is led by a board of directors appointed by the Governor, Florida Senate President and Florida House Speaker. The board is made up of leaders in business, government, education, labor, economic development and community development who provide policy direction for about \$245 million in annual workforce investment to address the employment and training needs of job seekers, workers and businesses.



**STEPHANIE SMITH**

*Chair, Board of Directors  
TECO Energy*



**ADRIENNE JOHNSTON**

*President and CEO  
CareerSource Florida*

### FEDERAL PUBLICATIONS & GUIDANCE; STATE LAWS, RULES & POLICY

- Public Law 113-128 (WIOA)
- Public Law 104-193 (TANF Block Grants)
- Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933, as amended
- USDOL Employment and Training Administration Final Rule 20 CFR Part 652 et al.
- FL Statutes Ch. 445
- FL Statutes Ch. 14.36 (REACH Act)

### REACH ACT STATE PARTNERS



**MISSION:** The Florida Workforce System connects employers with qualified, skilled talent and Floridians with employment and career development opportunities to achieve economic prosperity.

## LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS:

Florida's local workforce development boards are the backbone of the CareerSource Florida network. These boards — directed by business and other community leaders — work locally and regionally to convene local talent supply stakeholders, develop data-driven strategies, leverage resources and deliver valuable services to meet workforce needs.

## 2022 – 2023 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

Working with its partners, CareerSource Florida is focused on the following board-approved priorities and initiatives:

- ▶ **REACH ACT IMPLEMENTATION** — The REACH Act compels statewide systems responsible for educating, training and helping Floridians in need connect to education, employment and supportive services to work together more intentionally and effectively, so that more Floridians may achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Specifically, CareerSource Florida is charged with development of and support for the Florida Credentials Review Committee of business, education and workforce leaders to define credentials of value that align with in-demand jobs and careers in industries that drive Florida's economy.

With a focus on improved accountability, the law also calls for the Governor's REACH Office to develop outcome-based criteria for assigning a letter grade to each local workforce development board and for CareerSource Florida to assign and make the letter grades public annually.

Additionally, in collaboration with the REACH Office, CareerSource Florida is exploring approaches to aligning Florida's 24 local workforce development boards, consistent with the consideration of any benefits that might come through reducing the number of local boards as specified in the REACH Act to:

- Eliminate multiple layers of administrative entities to improve coordination;
- Establish consistent eligibility standards across the state to improve accountability; and
- Provide greater flexibility in the allocation of resources to maximize funds for training and business services.

- ▶ **SUPPORTING AVIATION, AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE MANUFACTURING THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE SECTOR STRATEGY APPROACH** — 2022-23 WIOA Governor's Reserve Funds and investments by other strategic partners will amplify a comprehensive investment approach directed by the agencies identified in the REACH Act to cultivate short- and long-term sustainable talent pipeline and accelerate Florida's competitiveness in this legacy sector.

- ▶ **FLORIDA RURAL COMMUNITIES** — To provide additional support to Florida's rural counties, \$2 million has been awarded to 11 local workforce development boards that serve rural communities to expand access to job seeker services and strengthen local collaboration with education and community-based partners to help residents gain skills and access to in-demand jobs and careers.

- ▶ **CAREER SUPPORT FOR SINGLE PREGNANT WOMEN** — Low-income single pregnant women seeking a pathway to prosperity may be assisted by new skill attainment through work-based learning and other training models. Helping mothers and mothers-to-be achieve successful employment provides opportunities for lasting positive impacts on these Floridians, their families and communities.

## TRAINING GRANTS:

Quick Response Training and Incumbent Worker Training grants provide funds to new, expanding and existing businesses to train new hires and elevate the skills of existing employees.

- Since 1993, Quick Response Training has helped about **197,500** Floridians receive customized, skills-based training.
- The Incumbent Worker Training grant program has supported customized training for **nearly 3,000 Florida companies**, many of them small businesses.

Administered by CareerSource Florida, these nationally recognized grants are among the high-value tools available through the CareerSource Florida network to help strengthen business competitiveness and growth in the Sunshine State.



Want to know more? Visit [careersourceflorida.com](https://careersourceflorida.com)    

CareerSource Florida is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711. Disponible en Español.



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