

Board of Directors Meeting

May 21, 2025

Welcome and Remarks



Stephanie Smith

Chair



Welcome and Remarks



Stephanie Smith

Chair

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Please see Madison Frazee for a Public Comment card and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

Consent Agenda

For Consideration:

1. Approval of February 20, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes, to include any modifications or changes noted by the board
2. Approval of April 8, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, to include any modifications or changes noted by the board
3. Recommendation to Sunset Six CareerSource Florida Policies
 - Statewide Workforce Development Board Policymaking Authority and Delegation
 - Contract Payment Documentation
 - Close-out of State Level Contracts/Grants
 - Accounting, Reporting, and Disposition Requirements for Property
 - Final Guidance: Prepayment of Costs
 - Final Guidance: Responsibilities Following Theft of Federal Funds
4. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Local Workforce Development Board Local and Regional Plan Approval
5. Local Workforce Development Board Composition and Certification for CareerSource Polk County
6. Approval of CareerSource Heartland Request to Operate as One-Stop Operator
7. 2025-2026 Updated Master Credentials List

President's Report



Adrienne Johnston

President and CEO

New Team Members



Dr. Erin Sampson

Director
Workforce Program Development



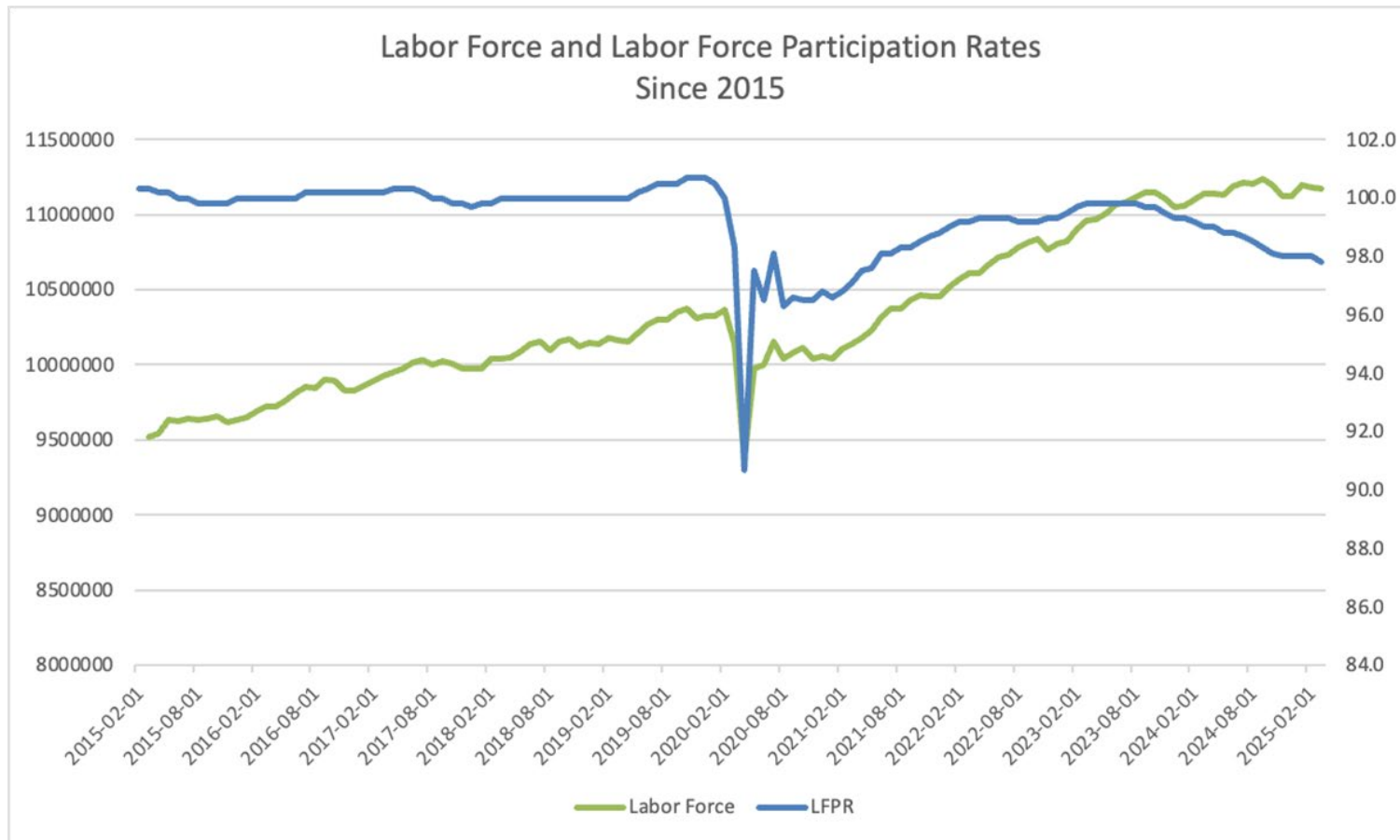
Dana Davis

Chief Financial Officer

- Unemployment rate of **3.7%**, lower than the national average for four consecutive years.

- **144,100** jobs gained over the year, an increase of **1.5 percent**, higher than the national increase of 1.2 percent:
 - Industries include:
 - Education & Health Services (+48,000 jobs, +3.2 percent)
 - Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+26,200 jobs, +1.3 percent)
 - Total Government (+18,400 jobs, +1.6 percent)
 - Construction (+12,400 jobs, +1.9 percent)
 - Professional & Business Services (+12,200 jobs, +0.8 percent)

Labor Market & Economic Data



24-25 Set Aside Initiatives Update

- Directed more than **\$13 million** in Governor reserved funding under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity ACT (WIOA), to support high-impact initiatives statewide, including:
 - Incumbent Worker Training and AI Incumbent Worker Training
 - Rural Initiatives
 - Florida Workforce System Transformation Plan
 - Sectors of Strategic Focus Training Initiative
 - Youth Career Exploration
 - Florida Deputy Sheriff's Association Registered Apprenticeship Program
 - Get There Faster: Veterans and Military Spouses
 - Digital Literacy and the Missing Middle
 - Credentials Review Committee Support
 - Supplemental WIOA Funding

- Business Outreach Toolkit:
 - Messaging
 - FAQs
 - Social Media
 - Templates

WHAT IS HOPE FLORIDA?

Hope Florida, spearheaded by First Lady Casey DeSantis, serves as a connection point for community collaboration between the public and private sector, faith-based communities, and nonprofits. Hope Florida goes beyond government to create a pathway for Floridians to live up to their God-given potential and accomplish the American Dream of achieving prosperity and economic self-sufficiency.

Hope Florida participants are likely to face significant barriers to employment, including single parents, individuals on government assistance, youth aging out of foster care, individuals with disabilities, seniors, juvenile justice youth, and veterans, among many others.

HOPE FLORIDA

HOPE NAVIGATORS

Hope Navigators are the key to what makes the Hope Florida model different. These experts work hand-in-hand with individuals to identify and overcome their unique barriers to prosperity. They connect participants with job readiness resources, skill development, career services, training, and supportive services—while also linking them to opportunities with Hope Employers.

Each CareerSource Florida local workforce development board has a designated Hope Navigator ready to provide guidance. Whether someone needs resources, skills, opportunities, or even basic necessities, Hope Navigators listen and support. That support doesn't end once immediate needs are met; Hope Navigators then help participants map out and implement a strategic plan for long-term success.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM EMPLOYERS

HOPE FLORIDA

Q: WHY SHOULD I BECOME A HOPE EMPLOYER?

A: Becoming a Hope Employer offers multiple benefits, including:

- **Solve Workforce Challenges.** Hope Florida connects you with work-ready individuals eager to work and grow within your company.
- **Receive Financial Assistance for Training.** The CareerSource Florida network may offer funding opportunities to help offset training costs when hiring Hope Florida participants.
- **Build a Loyal Talent Pipeline.** Investing in employees and providing support can help you cultivate a dedicated, hard-working team.

Q: HOW CAN MY BUSINESS BENEFIT?

A: In addition to gaining access to a motivated talent pool to fill job openings, Hope Employers may also be eligible for financial assistance to help train new hires, including:

- **On-the-Job Training (OJT) Funding.** The CareerSource Florida network may reimburse up to 50% of a new hire's wages for up to six months, depending on funding availability and local workforce policies.
- **Internships & Work Experience Programs.** In some regions, CareerSource Florida can cover wages and worker's compensation costs during a structured training period (typically up to 12 weeks).

- **Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs).** Available across industries, apprenticeships combine on-the-job training with classroom instruction. Apprentices may qualify for OJT funding and additional support services.
- **Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC).** Designed for businesses that hire individuals from groups facing barriers to employment, employers may qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$9,600 per eligible new hire.

Q: WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT WILL I RECEIVE AS A HOPE EMPLOYER?

- A:**
- **Dedicated Business Services Support.** Local workforce development boards provide assistance with recruiting, hiring, and onboarding.
 - **Customized Workforce Solutions.** CareerSource Florida can help identify the best hiring and training programs to fit your business needs.
 - **Ongoing Support for Employees.** Hope Florida participants receive wraparound services, such as career coaching and support with childcare, transportation, and other barriers, helping them succeed in their roles.

Priority Initiatives Update

- WIOA Combined Plan Two-Year Modification
- Workforce Training Grants
- Foundational Skills and Digital Literacy Assessment
- Credentials Review Committee Meeting Update

Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Budget

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
 - **\$111,955,579** (decrease of **\$935,108**, **-0.83** percent)
 - Set Aside Initiatives
 - Rapid Response
 - Local Allocations
 - On-the-Job Training Opportunity Waiver
 - Statewide Outreach
- Wagner-Peyser
 - **\$38,374,546** (decrease of **\$83,702**, **-0.22** percent)
 - Workforce Information Technology System
 - Investment for long-term improvement
 - Veterans Specialist Salary Supplement

From the Field

- Press Conference & Roundtable for Workforce Day at the Capitol
- Workforce Training Grants Legislative Presentation
- Century Correctional Institution's Employment Partner Showcase Attendee
- Spring Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Attendee
- The Launch Pad: Florida's Future in Space & Education Attendee
- Panelist at the Florida College Access Network's Talent Strong Florida Summit
- Presenter at the Florida Economic Development Council Annual Conference
- Speaker at FloridaCommerce's Space & Life Sciences Pitch Day



Upcoming Meetings:

- **Board of Directors Information Meeting**
 - *July 1st, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*
 - *Virtual*
- **Board of Directors Meeting**
 - *August 21st, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Ocala, Florida*
 - *World Equestrian Center – The Riding Academy Hotel*
- **Board of Directors Information Meeting**
 - *October 1st, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.*
 - *Virtual*
- **Board of Directors Meeting**
 - *November 19th, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*
 - *Virtual*

Strategic Policy and Performance Council Meeting Report



Sophia Eccleston

Chair

Finance Council Meeting Report



Kevin McDonald

Chair

Action Item 1:

CareerSource Florida Budget



Dana Davis

Chief Financial Officer

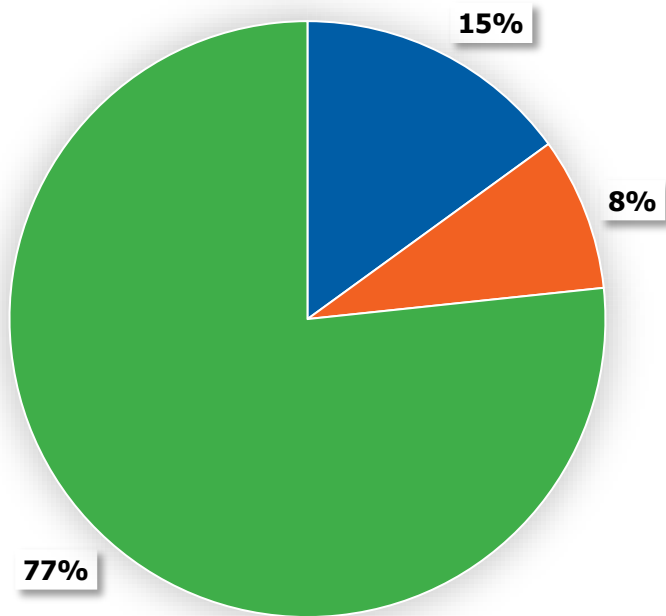
Major Funding Sources

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Wagner-Peyser Act (WP)
- Quick Response Training (QRT)

Source	Fiscal Year 2025-2026	Fiscal Year 2024-2025	Difference	% Change
WIOA	\$111,955,579	\$112,890,687	(\$935,108)	(0.83%)
TANF	\$57,786,605	\$57,786,605	\$0	0.000%
WP	\$38,374,546	\$38,458,248	(\$83,702)	(0.22%)
QRT	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$0	0.000%

2025-2026 WIOA Funding

Total \$111,955,579



- State Set-Aside - \$16,793,335
- Rapid Response - \$9,322,441
- Local Board Allocations - \$85,839,803

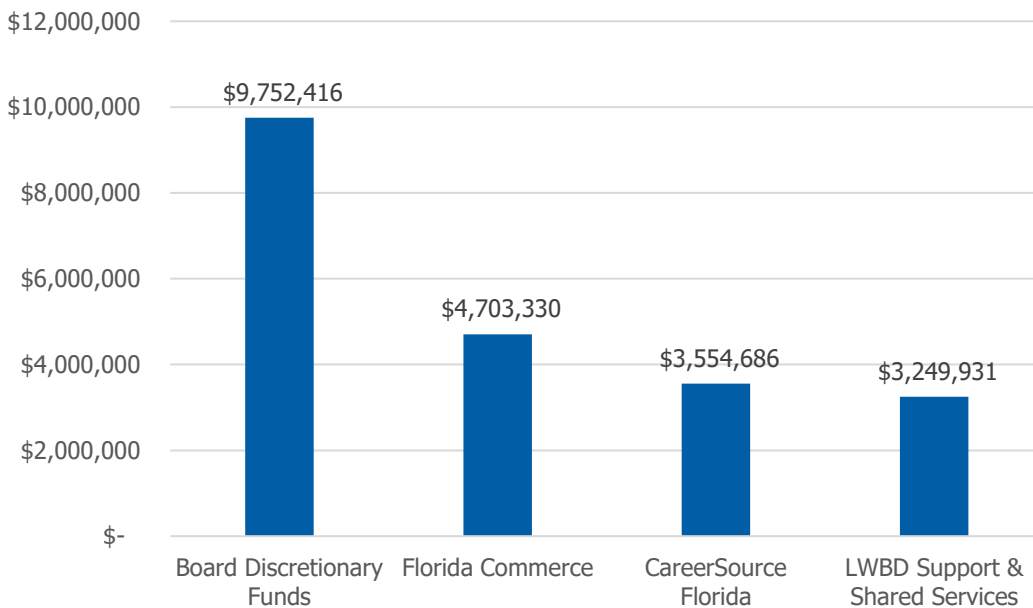
Total State Set-Aside

Total WIOA Set-Aside Funds \$16,793,335

Recaptured Funds \$4,467,028

Total WIOA Set-Aside \$21,260,363

Funding Allocations



Total Available – Board Discretion

Total WIOA Set-Aside	\$21,260,363
FloridaCommerce Admin	(\$4,703,330)
CareerSource Florida Admin	(\$3,554,686)
LWDB Support & Shared Svc.	(\$1,749,931)
CSF Statewide Outreach	(\$1,500,000)
Net Funds Available	\$9,752,416

Program Allocations

- Incumbent Worker Training: \$3,000,000
- Sectors of Strategic Focus Training: \$3,000,000
- Rural Workforce Initiatives: \$2,000,000
- Advancing Florida's Workforce System: \$750,000
- Youth Career Exploration: \$750,000
- Workforce Summit: \$140,000

2025-2026 Wagner-Peyser Act 7(a) Funds

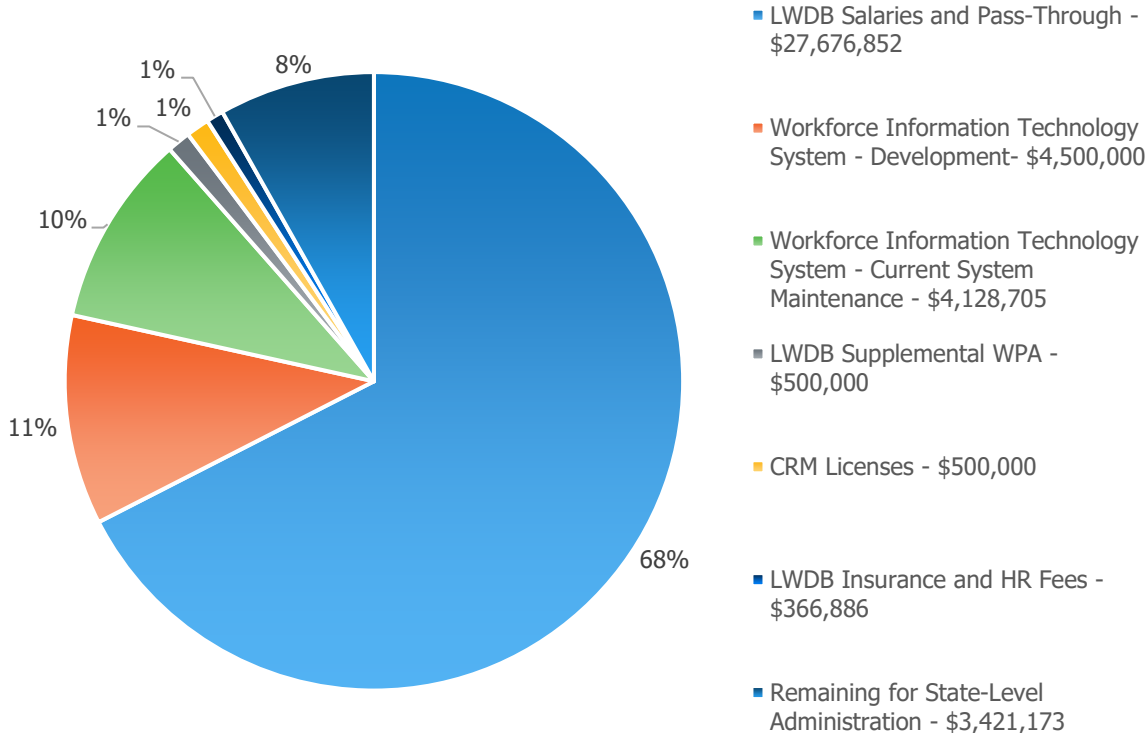
Total WP 7(a) Available Funds

Total PY 2024 Funding \$34,537,091

Florida Commerce Carryover \$6,481,193

Total Available Funding \$41,018,284

Funding Allocations



2025-2026 Wagner-Peyser Act 7(b) Funds

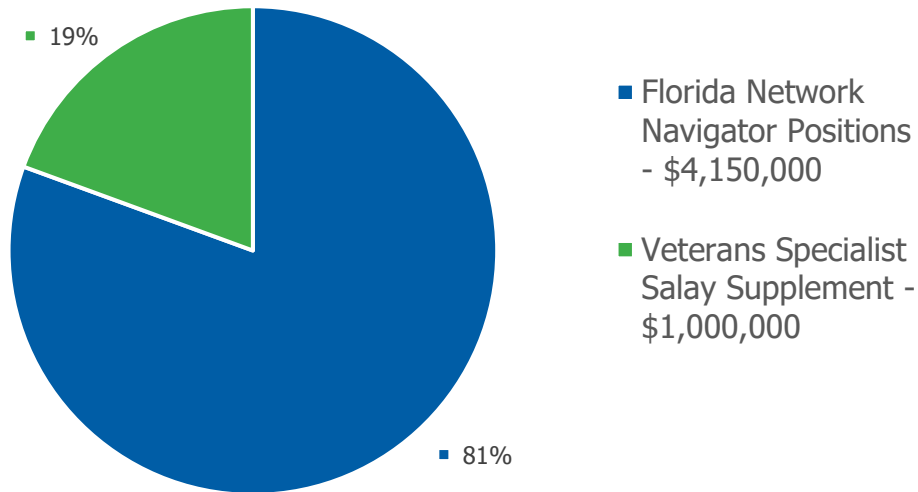
Total WP 7(b) Available Funds

Total PY 2024 Funding \$3,845,825

Florida Commerce Carryover \$1,304,175

Total Available Funds \$5,150,000

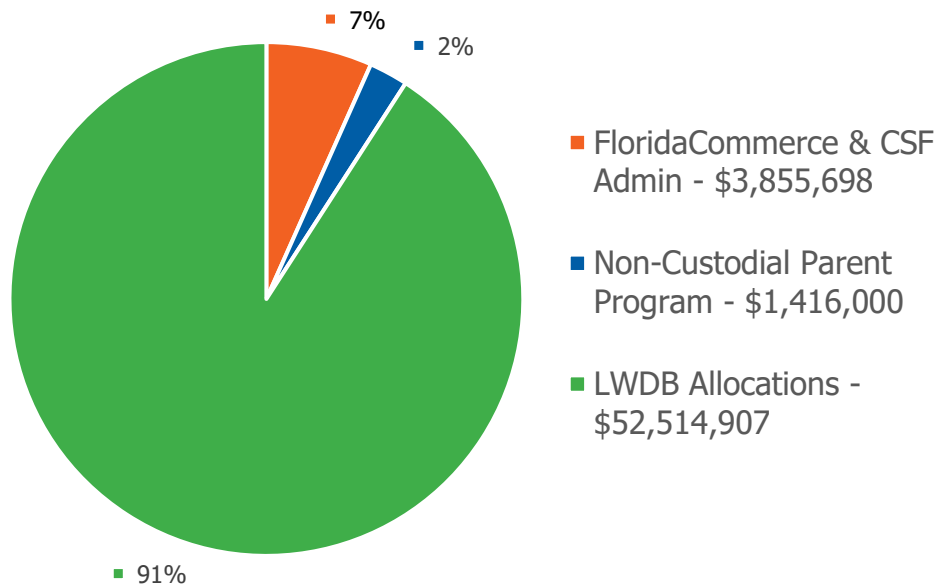
Funding Allocations



Total TANF Available Funds

Total Appropriation \$57,786,605

Funding Allocations



Action Item 1

CareerSource Florida Budget FY 2025-2026

For Consideration:

- Consolidated Action Item 1 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 CareerSource Florida Network Funding
 - Approval to establish the Program Year 2025 WIOA state-level projects.
 - Approval of the allocation methodology as proposed for the distribution of TANF funding for Fiscal Year 2025/26.
 - Approval of the Program Year 2025 Wagner-Peyser 7(b) state-level activities.

Action Items 2-6



Erin Sampson

Director, Workforce Program Development

Workforce Policy

Revisions to Policy G1: State Workforce Development Board Roles and Responsibilities

Purpose: State Workforce Development Board Roles and Responsibilities revised to add details specific to requirements consistent with state and federal law.

Key Policy Updates:

- Terminology Adjustments and structural changes update language for clarity and consistency and reorganized sections to improve readability and coherence.
- Policy and legal references updated to align with current procedures, regulations and strategic directions.
- Added details specific to:
 - workforce policy development, dissemination and revision;
 - contract template development and dissemination;
 - collaboration with FloridaCommerce on technical assistance, training, and monitoring of LWDBs;
 - ethics;
 - items for board consideration and approval; and
 - the Credentials Review Committee and processes for the Master Credential List.

Action Item 2

State Workforce Development Board Roles and Responsibilities Policy

For Consideration:

- Approve revisions to CareerSource Florida Policy G1: State Workforce Development Board Roles and Responsibilities.

Workforce Policy

New Workforce Policy – Adult and Dislocated Worker Program Design and Framework

Purpose: Defines requirements for LWDBs to design and implement WIOA adult and dislocated worker programs.

Key Policy Updates:

- Ensures consistency with WIOA, federal regulations, and Training and Employment Guidance Letters.
- WIOA Indicators of Performance aligned with key objectives in WIOA Plan.
- Requires training contracts to use the approved CareerSource Florida template.
- Supports co-enrollment to leverage assistance from multiple core programs and combined partner services.
- FloridaCommerce monitors requirements and local operating procedures.
- LWDBs must establish local monitoring policies and procedures that include local monitoring procedures for implementation of this policy.

Action Item 3

Adult and Dislocated Worker Program Design and Framework Policy

For Consideration:

- Approve CareerSource Florida Policy W2 – Adult, Dislocated Worker Program Framework and Design.

Workforce Policy

New Policy - Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA)
Design and Framework

Purpose: Provides RESEA program requirements and guidance to Local Workforce Development Boards and program service providers. This guidance replaces Unemployment Insurance Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) information from a previously retired policy.

Key Policy Updates:

- Identifies required services that must be provided to RESEA participants by LWDB staff.
- Aligns practice with required performance metrics described in the RESEA State Plan.
- Offers guidance to prevent improper benefits payments.
- Key objectives, measurable performance outcomes (including WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance and LWDB Letter Grades) and implementation sections added.
- FloridaCommerce will use data from the calendar years 2024 and 2025 to establish a baseline for RESEA performance metrics based on RESEA appointment attendance, no-show reschedules and partner co-enrollment performance.
- FloridaCommerce required to monitor services and activities provided under WIOA no less than annually for compliance with WIOA requirements.

Action Item 4

Reemployment Services Eligibility and Assessments Design and Framework Policy

For Consideration:

- Approve New CareerSource Florida Administrative Policy – Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program Design and Framework.

Workforce Policy

Revisions to Workforce Policy 009 On-the-Job Training

Purpose: On-the-Job Training Policy revised to remove duplicative language and description of processes from **Work-Based Training & Learning Opportunities Policy** (Approved February 2025)

Key Policy Updates:

- Establishes guidelines and procedures for LWDBs to implement and sustain OJT.
- Requires written contracts using standardized template approved by SWDB
- LWDBs must develop aligned local operating procedures (LOP) for eligibility and training.
- Adds language to encourage OJT use for in-demand occupations.
- Adds language emphasizing co-enrollment in eligible programs, effective training and supervision with eligible training providers, employers, and other stakeholders including WIOA combined planning partners.
- Outlines processes to monitor and evaluate program effectiveness.
- Expand opportunities to use OJT to support apprenticeships.

Action Item 5

On-the-Job Training Policy

For Consideration:

- Approve revisions to CareerSource Florida Workforce Policy 009 – On-the-Job Training.

WIOA Waiver Request

U.S. Department of Labor On-the-Job Training Wage Reimbursement Waiver Request

Opportunity Zones Impact:

- 427 Qualified Opportunity Zones in Florida, covering every county.
- Represent 40,292 business establishments and 936,691 jobs statewide.
- Designed to address chronic underinvestment and high employment barriers.

Decline in OJT Utilization:

- **50% decrease** in participants served over the last four years.
- **75% decline** in positions created through OJT.
- Local workforce boards saw fluctuations in OJT use, despite its alignment with apprenticeship training models.

WIOA Waiver Request

U.S. Department of Labor On-the-Job Training Wage Reimbursement Waiver Request

Purpose: FloridaCommerce and CareerSource Florida request approval to submit a USDOL waiver request to increase the On-the-Job Training wage rate reimbursement to employers statewide up to 90 percent and up to 100 percent for businesses in Opportunity Zones or residents that reside within an Opportunity Zone.

Key Objectives:

1. Provide targeted incentives to employers in Opportunity Zones to drive job creation and improve access to work-based learning opportunities for job seekers in need.
2. Address talent pipeline shortages faced by employers in Opportunity Zones by ensuring participants have the skills and preparation needed to enter the workforce.
3. Attract additional private investment in Opportunity Zones.
4. Expand access to work-based learning particularly for those individuals residing within the Opportunity Zone with limited experience or credentials, to gain access to hands-on training and career pathways.
5. Accelerate hiring and job placements, reduce unemployment durations and increase workforce participation.
6. Improve WIOA performance outcomes statewide such as employment rate and median earnings.

Action Item 6

On-the-Job Training (OJT) Statewide Waiver Request

For Consideration:

- Authorize FloridaCommerce and CareerSource Florida to submit a USDOL waiver requesting authority to increase the wage rate reimbursement to employers statewide up to 90 percent and up to 100 percent for businesses in Opportunity Zones or residents that reside within an Opportunity Zone.

Action Item 7



Garrick Wright

Executive Program Director

Action Item 7

Designation of Three Workforce Development Regions

For Consideration:

- Approve a recommendation to the Governor for the designation of the following regional planning areas:
 - Tampa Bay Regional Planning Area - CareerSource Pasco Hernando (LWDB 16), CareerSource Polk (LWDB 17), CareerSource Suncoast (LWDB 18), and CareerSource Hillsborough Pinellas (LWDB 28)
 - Heartland Southwest Florida Regional Planning Area - CareerSource Heartland (LWDB 19) and CareerSource Southwest Florida (LWDB 24)
 - Central & East Coast Florida Innovation Alliance - CareerSource Central Florida (LWDB 12) and CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia (LWDB 27)

Retaining Florida's Future

Keep Young Professionals Thriving in the Sunshine State



J. Alex Kelly

Secretary,
FloridaCommerce



D.C. Reeves

Mayor,
City of Pensacola



Rachel Ludwig

Vice President of Talent
Development for the
Future of Work,
Florida Chamber
Foundation



Kelly Jordan

COO,
CareerSource Okaloosa
Walton

Apprenticeship Updates



Erin Sampson

Director, Workforce Program
Development



Kathryn Wheeler

Director, Office of Apprenticeship
Florida Dept. of Education



APPRENTICE FLORIDA



**CareerSource Florida's Role in
Expanding Registered Apprenticeships**

- Designated Apprenticeship Navigator at 21 LWDB's
- State and local guidance via policies, procedures, and technical support
- RAP awareness to all local workforce staff
- Communications and marketing efforts – www.apprenticeflorida.com
- Direct assistance to employers seeking information
- Financial support of apprenticeship research and resources

CareerSource Florida Apprenticeship Navigators

Educate
Employers

Connect
Employers

Recruit
Apprentices

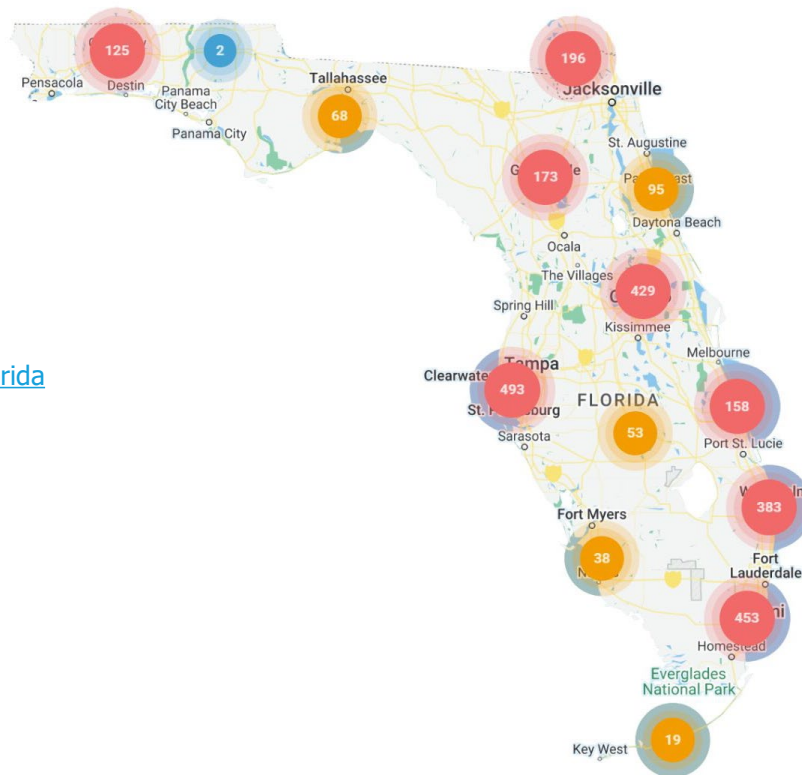
Related Technical
Instruction and
OJT Support

Supportive
Services

Apprenticeship
Sponsor

CareerSource Florida Apprenticeship Map

[Apprentice Florida Resources - Apprentice Florida](#)



Advancements in Florida's Registered Apprenticeship System

Kathryn Wheeler,
State Director of
Apprenticeship

**APPRENTICE
FLORIDA**



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
CAREER AND ADULT EDUCATION



Advancements in Florida's Registered Apprenticeship System

- New apprenticeship programs are registered through an online portal, which enables faster registration. Key features of the system include:
 - Consistent document generation,
 - Auto-population of work process schedules with the ability to customize, and
 - Ability to reference and clone work process schedules and related technical instruction outlines from currently registered programs.

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS PORTAL

Registered apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and apply industry standards to training programs for registered apprentices that can increase productivity and improve the quality of the workforce.

A large, semi-transparent blue button with the text "Play Video" in white, overlaid on a background image of a smiling woman working.[Register for Portal Access](#)

Advancements in Florida's Registered Apprenticeship System

- In collaboration with CareerSource Florida, an "Apprenticeship Finder Map" is being developed to make it easier for Floridians to find nearby registered apprenticeship programs and employers participating in these programs.



Registered Apprenticeship Program Finder

<https://apprenticeflorida.com/resources/>

Thank You!



ITA Waivers Update



Erin Sampson

Director, CareerSource Florida



Warren Davis

Policy Development Manager
CareerSource Florida

ITA Waiver Process

- Per Florida Statute, LWDBs must allocate at least 50% of Title I WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker funds each fiscal year (July–June).
 - **Ensure the required minimum allocation of 50% is reflected in the budget submitted to FloridaCommerce or obtain a waiver from the state workforce development board if a LWDB cannot meet the minimum allocation requirement.**
- Applications for waivers were required to be submitted no later than September 1, 2024, for program year (PY) 2024-2025.
 - **Beginning PY 2025-2026, applications for waivers must be submitted prior to July 1 of the PY for which the waiver applies.**
- Approved waivers are limited to one year.
- Prioritize training for eligible recipients, as emphasized by WIOA.

PY 2024-2025 Approved ITA Waiver Requests

Local Workforce Development Board	ITA Expenditures as of 03/31/2025	ITA Approved Waiver Expenditure
CareerSource Okaloosa Walton (LWDB 2)	52.72%	30%
CareerSource Chipola (LWDB 3)	8.42%	25%
CareerSource Capital Region (LWDB 5)	45.92%	25%
CareerSource Northeast Region (LWDB 8)	39.00%	40%
CareerSource Central Florida (LWDB 12)	50.39%	40%
CareerSource Heartland (LWDB 19)	39.92%	20%
CareerSource Research Coast (LWDB 20)	47.65%	35%
CareerSource Palm Beach County (LWDB 21)	22.97%	30%
CareerSource South Florida (LWDB 23)	29.08%	40%
CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia (LWDB 27)	41.27%	35%
CareerSource Pinellas Hillsborough (LWDB 28)	29.29%	35%

Reported Barriers

- LWDBs report a lack of customers interested in training, increased infrastructure costs, and inflation as factors in low training expenditures.
- Other challenges in spending WIOA funds on training may include:
 - **Administrative Complexity:** Navigating administrative requirements and compliance regulations associated with WIOA funding can be time-consuming and resource intensive.
 - **Funding Allocation:** Ensuring a significant portion of funds is allocated to training services while covering other essential services and administrative costs.
 - **Participant Engagement:** Engaging eligible participants and ensuring they complete the necessary assessments and documentation to qualify for ITAs.
 - **Supportive Services:** Coordinating supportive services, such as transportation and childcare, to help participants successfully complete their training programs.

System-wide Improvements: Advancing Florida's Workforce System

INTRODUCTION

Agenda

1. Overview
2. Continuous Workforce System Improvements
3. Regional Planning
4. Next steps

Presenter:



Garrick Wright

Executive Program Director,
CareerSource Florida

CONTINUOUS WORKFORCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Three Systemwide Improvements (SWIs) were identified for FY25 to improve effectiveness and increase efficiencies for local workforce development boards' activities and programs.

Programmatic Funding Sources Analysis

*August 2024 – December 2024
(Complete)*

Analyze how local workforce boards charge job seeker services to identify opportunities that enhance the longevity and efficiency of grant funding.

WIOA Eligibility Process SWI

*March 2025 – May
2025
(Complete)*

Evaluate current state of WIOA eligibility processes for local workforce development boards and other state workforce boards to develop future state process maps, leading practices and draft policy.

Monitoring and Compliance SWI

*April 2025 – June 2025
(Ongoing)*

Gain insights into monitoring and compliance activities carried out by FloridaCommerce through reviewing current operations to inform and strengthen CareerSource Florida Monitoring Framework.

CONTINUOUS WORKFORCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

As part of CareerSource Florida's ongoing commitment to continuous improvement efforts, CareerSource Florida conducted analysis on understanding the current and future state processes for determining WIOA eligibility for local workforce development boards

Goals

To understand processes, best practices, constraints, and perceptions related to assessing WIOA eligibility for potential job seekers and provide policy for an improved future state leveraging optimal methods that will enhance the efficiency of eligibility determination process and improve service delivery for job seekers.

Objectives

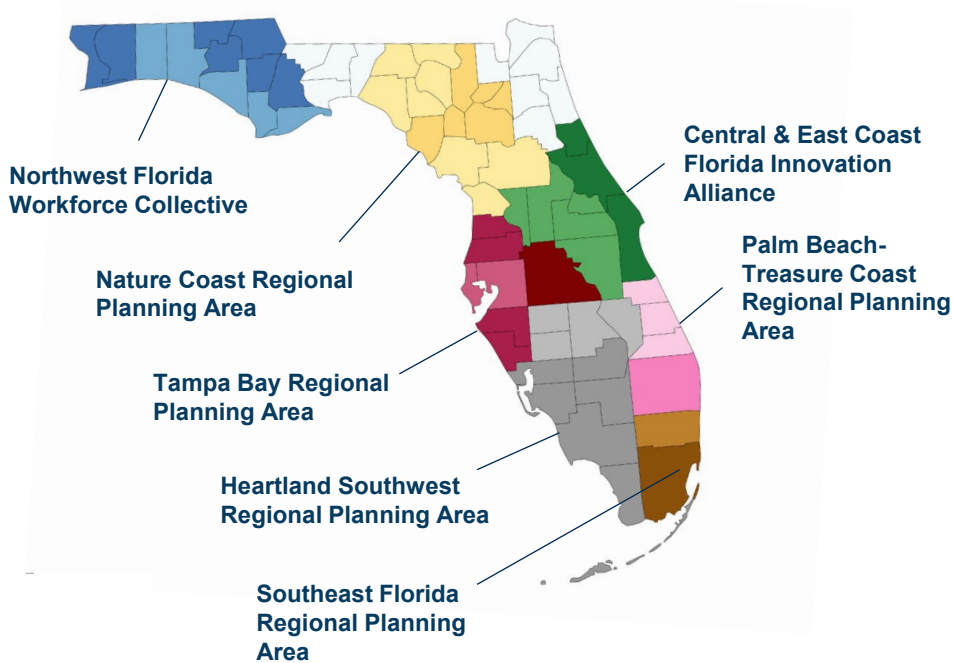
- Clarify and document the current state WIOA eligibility of the state-level procedures that promote WIOA customer acceptance.
- Streamline WIOA eligibility processes across the workforce system.
- Increase efficiency and innovate the WIOA eligibility determination processes.

Outputs

- Documented leading practices on determining WIOA eligibility determination process
- WIOA eligibility future state process maps in Microsoft Visio
- Draft WIOA eligibility determination process policy

REGIONAL PLANNING

Regional planning activities have progressed through FY25 as regional plans and designation requests are submitted by regional planning areas (RPAs).



Date	Activity	Regional Planning Area (RPA)
October 2024	Submit Regional Plan	Northwest Florida Workforce Collective Palm Beach-Treasure Coast RPA
November 2024	Submit Letters of Intent	Remaining local areas
February 2025	Submit Designation Request	Southeast Florida RPA Nature Coast RPA
May 2025	Submit Designation Request	Tampa Bay RPA Central & East Coast Florida Innovation Alliance Heartland Southwest RPA

NEXT STEPS

- Finalize next steps for the WIOA Eligibility Process Systemwide Improvement.
- Continue activities on the Monitoring and Compliance Systemwide Improvement.
- Continue to support Regional Planning Areas and provide guidance as they prepare to submit regional plans in September 2026.



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FloridaCommerce Report



J. Alex Kelly

Secretary, FloridaCommerce

2024-2025 Update

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis:

- ❑ \$1.7 Trillion Economy

U.S. News & World Report:

- ❑ #1 Economy

 - ❑ #1 in Economic Growth

- ❑ #1 Higher Education – state colleges and universities – 9th year in a row

- ❑ #2 Education Overall

- ❑ #6 Best State Overall

 - ❑ Florida was #9 in 2024

- ❑ #1 Talent Development

- ❑ #1 Business Formations 3.6 M

- ❑ #1 Entrepreneurship (Startups per Capita)

- ❑ #1 growth in Manufacturing – 432,000+ jobs, 27,300+ establishments, 15.7 jobs per establishment

- ❑ #1 growth in High Tech Business

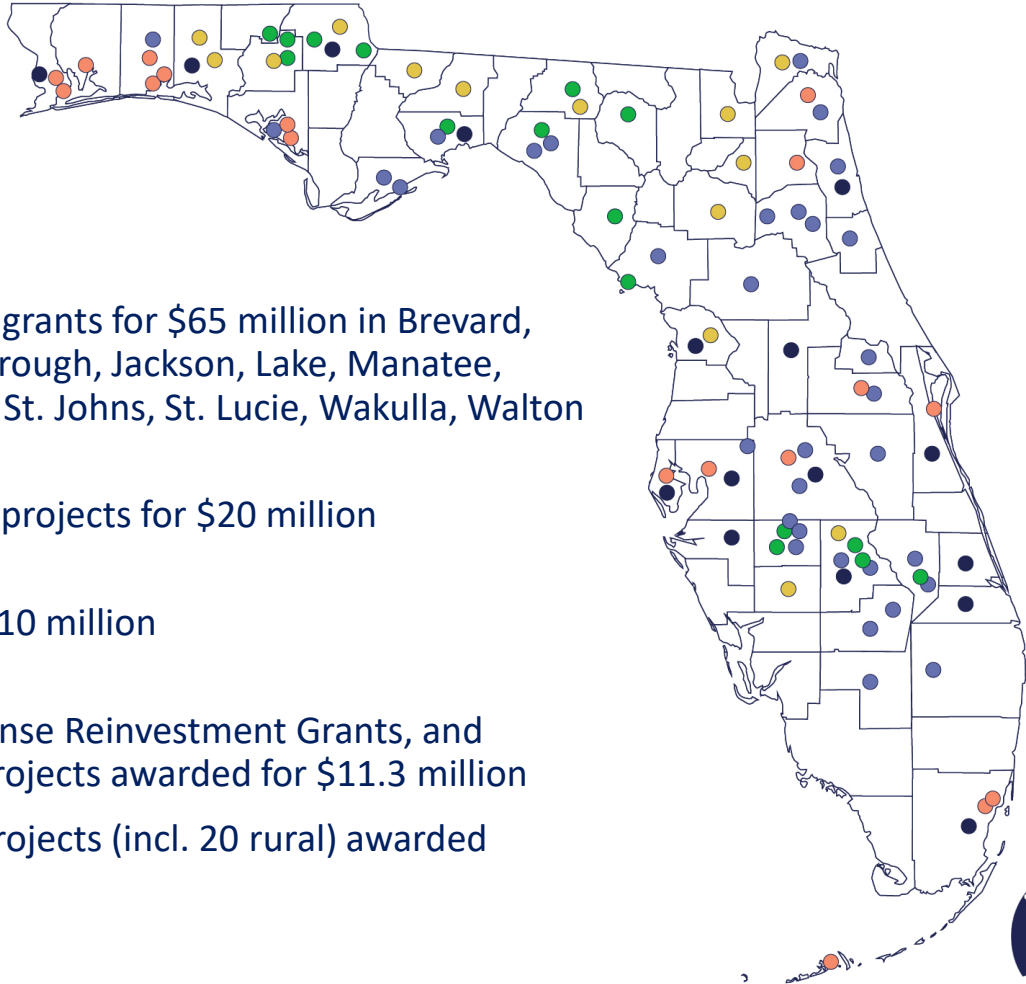
- ❑ #1 growth in Corporate HQ Relocations

- ❑ AAA credit rating



Grants Awarded in 2024-2025

-  Job Growth Grant Fund (JGGF) – 16 grants for \$65 million in Brevard, Citrus, Escambia, Highlands, Hillsborough, Jackson, Lake, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Pinellas, Polk, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Wakulla, Walton counties (11 re: manufacturing)
-  Rural Infrastructure Fund (RIF) – 17 projects for \$20 million in 13 counties
-  Small Cities CDBG: 16 projects for \$10 million in 15 counties
-  Defense Infrastructure Grants, Defense Reinvestment Grants, and Defense Support Commission: 25 projects awarded for \$11.3 million
-  CPTA and Competitive Florida: 25 projects (incl. 20 rural) awarded for \$1.5 million



FloridaCommerce's Office of Military and Defense

❑ Highlights of Initiatives:

- ❑ [Advantage Florida: Military Benefits Guide – updated 2025](#)
- ❑ [Talent Pipeline Portal for Aerospace and Defense – launched 2025](#)
- ❑ [Spousal Licensing Reciprocity Matrix – launched 2024](#)
- ❑ [Florida Aerospace and Defense Portal – launched 2023](#)

❑ Contact: timothy.macgregor@commerce.fl.gov



State Incentivized Projects for 2024-2025



46

Projects
Established



9,541

Jobs



\$3.63 Billion

in Capital
Investment

100% of these projects were done in coordination with a local Economic Development Councils in 13 counties: Alachua, Brevard, Broward, Clay, Duval, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Polk, St. Lucie, and Volusia.



SelectFlorida's Impact for 2024-2025



1,651

Florida
Businesses
Assisted



\$1.5 Billion

in Export
Sales



\$161 Million

FL
Businesses'
Sales at
Medica 2024

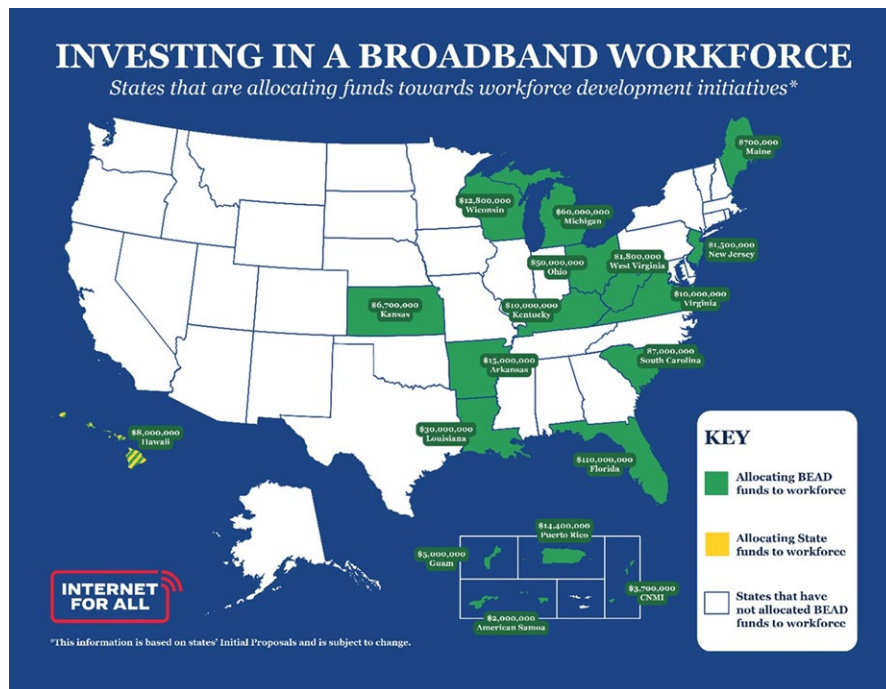


\$142 Million

FL Businesses'
Sales at Arab
Health 2025



Focusing on Broadband in 2025-2026



❑ Infrastructure Grants through 2023-2024: 209 grants for \$612 million. Rural communities received:

❑ 177 grants (85%)

❑ \$390 million (64%)

❑ For 2025-2026:

❑ BEAD Infrastructure: \$900 million

❑ BEAD Workforce: \$110 million

❑ BEAD Digital Literacy: \$30 million



FL WINS Update

- ❑ Successfully completed a soft Launch of the FL WINS solution on March 3, 2025, delivering on four key success areas, including:
 - ❑ Customer portal guest access.
 - ❑ Customer portal user access.
 - ❑ Referrals from the customer portal to the initial claims module of Reconnect.
 - ❑ Preliminary reporting and analytics functionality of the Customer 360 Portal.
- ❑ The Customer Portal displays the catalog of services available from the various WPAs and provides a fully functional service match program, based on customer inputs, which are all visible in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole.
- ❑ Users who register and log into the FL WINS system can create and save profiles with unique preferences and documents in addition to accessing the common intake form.



FL WINS Update: Next Steps

- ☐ In the next six months, the Program is focused on:
- ☐ Continuing the plan, design and implementation of Milestone 3:
 - ☐ Integration of DOE's VRAware.
 - ☐ Completion of single sign on capabilities to improve user experience.
 - ☐ Finalization of the Data Solution to provide a unified customer view and a seamless data integration across systems.
 - ☐ Completion of the remaining development to fully integrate with the Reconnect Initial Claims Module.
- ☐ Conducting global design sessions to inform on overall solution design, system integration and timeline constraints.
- ☐ Initiating the planning and design of Milestone 4, which includes:
 - ☐ Commerce's Reconnect.
 - ☐ Commerce's Employ Florida.
 - ☐ DOE's EFS/DEL System.
 - ☐ Completion of the Customer 360 Portal.



Thank you!

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Local Partners Report



Marcus McBride, Ph.D.

President, Florida Workforce Development Association
CEO, CareerSource Escarosa

OPEN DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Closing Remarks



Stephanie Smith

Chair