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## **STATE WORKFORCE BOARD**

The State Workforce Board (SWB) connects and integrates Maine's workforce development system (workforce development, economic development, education and social services) through a shared vision. Maine's workforce development system is an integrated system that:

- is responsive to the needs of employers and workers
- increases educational attainment and creates a pipeline of workers to meet the needs of strategic career and industry sectors
- is focused on careers, not just jobs
- provides access to services, through our Career Centers, which seek to eliminate barriers to work
- is driven by the best data available

### **Responsibilities and Membership**

- The SWB is an employer-led board whose purpose is to ensure that Maine's workforce development system helps Maine people and businesses compete successfully in the global economy. The SWB advises the Governor on policies beneficial to the success of Maine's workforce development system.
- The SWB is defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act<sup>1</sup> (WIOA) and authorized under Maine Law<sup>2</sup>. The SWB is one of WIOA's compliance requirements for the Governor to receive workforce investment funds that serve to remove barriers to employment for adult workers, dislocated workers and youth. Funding for the SWB is provided through the Governor's portion of WIOA funding allocated to the State.
- SWB membership (members are appointed by the Governor) is comprised of:
  - Governor
  - Employers/business owners
  - Representatives of the workforce (i.e. labor organizations, community-based organizations and joint management/labor apprenticeship programs)
  - Member from each chamber of the State Legislature
  - Chief local elected officials (County Commissioners)
  - State officials responsible for the five core programs identified in WIOA
    - *Adult Education* - Department of Education
    - *Adults, Youth, Dislocated Workers, Vocational Rehab* – Department of Labor

<sup>1</sup> WIOA Title 20 <https://www.ecfr.gov/egi-bin/text->

<sup>2</sup> 26 MRSA §2004-A <http://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/26/title26sec2004-A.html>; 26 MRSA §2005 <http://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/26/title26sec2006.html>