

Maine State Workforce Board

Presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on
Labor and Housing

January 27, 2021

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<https://www.maine.gov/swb/>

What is the State Workforce Board?

- The SWB is made up of leaders representing private business, labor, community-based organizations, Maine legislators, local government, and state agencies. The majority of the 33 member board represent business.
- SWB members are nominated by the Governor under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26 §2006-2A, requires those nominees to be confirmed by the Legislature.
- The SWB is one of WIOA's compliance requirements for the Governor to receive federal workforce investment funds that serve to remove barriers to employment for adult workers, dislocated workers and youth.

What is the State Workforce Board?

- SWB membership 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 six core programs identified in WIOA

Mission of Maine's State Workforce Board



The SWB advises the Governor on workforce policy and plans, and contributes to the economic success of Maine by:

- Recommending policy actions to both public and private institutions and creating coalitions to achieve their implementation.
- Working with workforce development system partners to integrate workforce development into the decision-making of employers, economic developers, educators, and human resource professionals.
- Raising public awareness of the importance of workforce development for Maine's economic future.
- Ensuring public accountability by evaluating the effectiveness of the overall workforce development system.



BUILDING MAINE'S COMPREHENSIVE WORKFORCE AND TALENT STRATEGY

*Submitted by the
State Workforce Board
Maine Department of Labor*



Vision for Maine's Workforce

Vision:

- Maine's residents and businesses will have economic opportunity and contribute to the growth of Maine through a responsive, networked and coordinated workforce development system across public and private sectors. The system will integrate all stakeholders into a seamless continuum resulting in increased educational and employment attainment for Maine people with a focus on careers, not just jobs, and support Maine's business sectors with skilled and qualified workers.

Maine's Workforce Strategy

Maine's workforce strategy was created to provide a roadmap to foster collaboration among public, private, nonprofit and education sectors to help achieve the goals outlined in Maine's 10-year economic development plan:

- Grow the average annual wage by +10 percent
- Attract 75,000 people to Maine's talent pool

Goals

The strategy focuses on three goals which will target Maine's workforce resources to achieve the goals outlined in the 10-year economic development plan:

1. Partner and respond to business talent needs by growing Maine's workforce by 30,000 people by ensuring that all programs and services are constructed to serve actual needs of the state's businesses and workers.
2. Create a system of lifelong learning and employment for Maine residents by building its workforce through a multi-faceted approach to ensure that employers have access to qualified workers, and residents have access to the necessary educational and training opportunities to promote career advancement.
3. Build an integrated workforce infrastructure that is accessible, data and demand-driven, and accountable to workers and businesses

NGA – State Roadmap for Workforce Recovery

- SWB is using the *State Roadmap for Workforce Recovery* as a template for refining vision, goals, key metrics, expected outcomes, and continuous monitoring and improvement processes
 - <https://www.nga.org/center/publications/roadmap-workforce-recovery/>
- Offers a framework for organizing state workforce response and recovery activities to accomplish four critical objectives necessary for a stronger and more equitable post-pandemic future:
 - expand access to essential support services
 - rapidly connect jobseekers to work
 - advance digital access and skill development
 - enhance job quality for all

Maine's Workforce Development System

- When we use the term “workforce development system” we are referring to the group of agencies in Maine that provide a wealth of workforce services to workers and businesses.

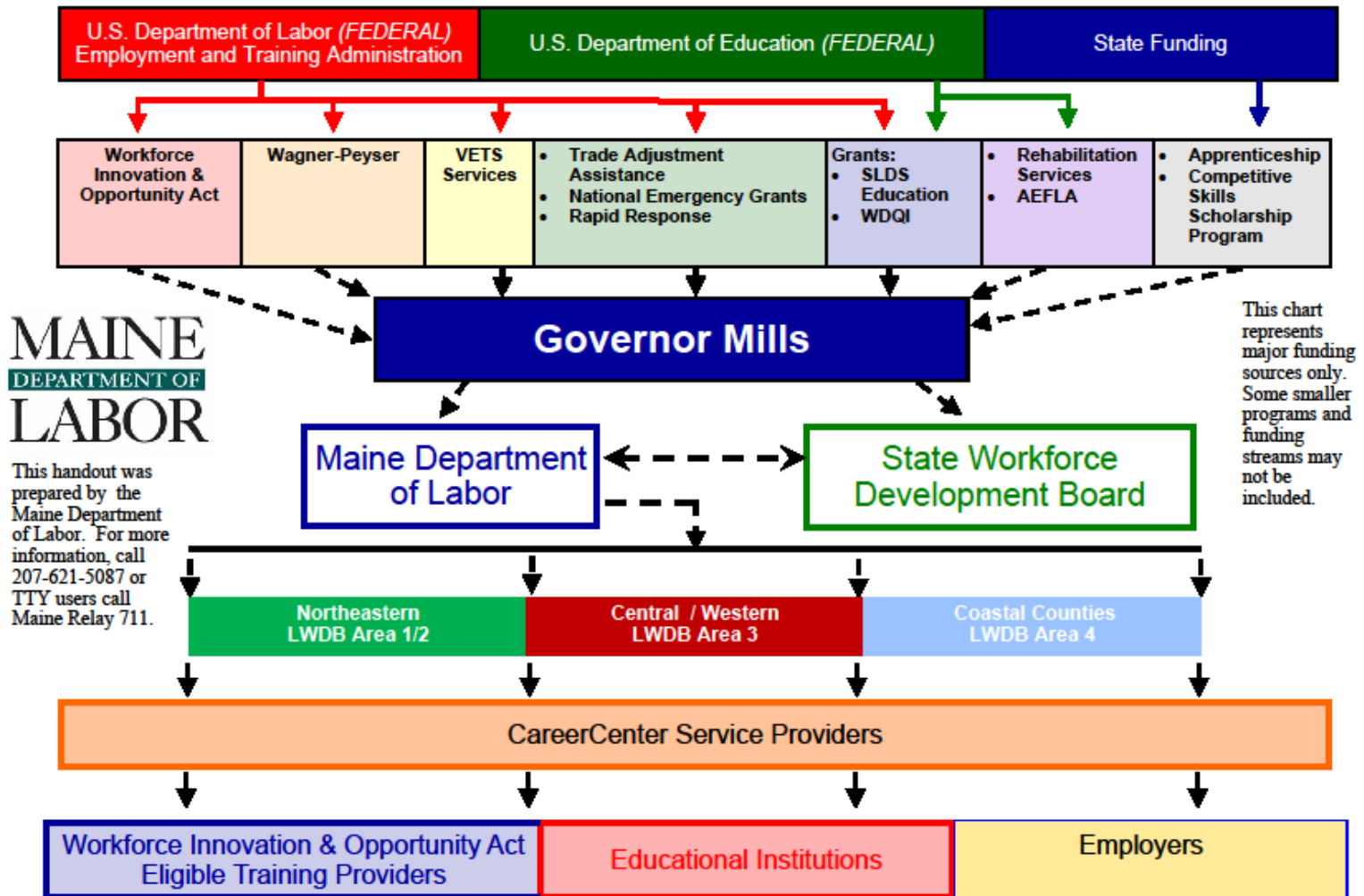
- Maine's workforce development system is made up of multiple programs, workforce service providers and partners that are funded with federal, state, local, philanthropic and private resources.

- Offering a variety of services across these agencies, the workforce system has two primary customers:
 1. Job seekers/working learners, including:
 - a) youth and young adults ages 14-24;
 - b) veterans, people with disabilities, migrant farm workers, limited English speakers and other Mainers in need of special assistance
 - c) adults transitioning from unemployment, dislocation, or public assistance to employment; and
 - d) current workers.
 2. Businesses seeking qualified candidates for job openings and partnering on solutions for economic and workforce challenges.

Maine's Workforce Development System

- There are several agencies that contribute oversight, resources, and programming to the workforce development system.
 - At the State level, this includes:
 - ▶ Maine Department of Labor
 - ▶ Maine Department of Education
 - ▶ Maine Department of Health and Human Services
 - ▶ Maine Department of Economic Development
 - At the local level, this includes:
 - ▶ Local Workforce Boards
 - ▶ Maine Career Centers
 - ▶ Maine Adult Education
 - ▶ Maine Community College System
 - ▶ University of Maine System

Maine's Workforce Development System



This handout was prepared by the Maine Department of Labor. For more information, call 207-621-5087 or TTY users call Maine Relay 711.

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are provided upon request to people with disabilities.

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law on July 22, 2014.
- WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
- WIOA directs the SWB to coordinate the development of Maine's four-year (2020-2023) strategic and operational plan for enhancing its workforce, developed with the intent of continuing the success of Maine's businesses and helping people whose employment barriers have kept them from thriving in this economy.
- This plan establishes the long-term agenda for Maine's workforce development system and covers the following programs authorized by the WIOA:
 - Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs
 - Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Program
 - Title III Wagner-Peyser Employment Services (Career Centers)
 - Title IV Vocational Rehabilitation Program

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