



INNOVATE

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

June 25, 2019

1:30 p.m.

Little Rock Workforce Center
5401 South University
Little Rock, Arkansas

Arkansas Workforce Development Board

Executive Committee



AGENDA

June 25, 2019

ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

1:30 P.M.

Call to Order Tom Anderson, Committee Chair

Agenda Item 1: ACTION

Approval of the WIOA State Plan Kris Jones, Employment Assistance
Division of Workforce Services

Cassandra Williams-Stokes, Director
Division of Services for the Blind

Announcements

Adjournment

Little Rock Workforce Center
5401 University
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209



**For Consideration of the
Arkansas Workforce Development Board
Executive Committee**

June 25, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 1: ACTION: WIOA State Plan Approval

INFORMATION/RATIONALE: In accordance with the Arkansas Workforce Development Board By-Laws, the Executive Committee shall be formed and meet as needed between the quarterly board meetings.

The Executive Committee shall have the authority of the Board to act during the interim between Board meetings but shall defer to the Board, whenever practical, action on matters of major policy implications. Executive Committee decisions will be implemented immediately and will be ratified at the next full Board meeting.

On April 11, 2019, Governor Asa Hutchinson signed the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019. This comprehensive state government reorganization effort realigned agencies in an effort to reflect a more modern and efficient way to operate state government.

This reorganization resulted in changes related to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Programs in Arkansas.

ARKANSAS WIOA STATE PLAN REVISIONS

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson embarked upon his Transformation of Arkansas State Government in early 2019. As a result, the Transformation and Efficiencies Act 2019 authorized the reduction of the number of cabinet-level agencies from 42 to 15. These cabinet-level agencies will fall under the supervision of newly-appointed Department Secretaries. This piece of state legislation will go into effect on July 1, 2019 and will reflect a reorganization of the workforce partner agencies in Arkansas.

Specifically, the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services will become the Division of Workforce Services and will incorporate the former Arkansas Rehabilitation Services and Adult Education Services. Additionally, there is created the new Division of Services for the Blind, a stand-alone entity. Each of these entities will be governed by the newly-appointed Secretary of Commerce.

The Governor has provided Transitional Authority to the new position of Secretary of Commerce. Organizational changes are to be expected in the transition period which will impact the titles of program administrators as well as Organizational Charts within the larger Department of Commerce. These changes will be included in this revised WIOA State Plan as soon as they are finalized and approved by the Secretary of Commerce or the Governor.

The changes in this revised plan reflect the new organizational structure of and relationship between the WIOA Core Partners. These changes consist of the usage of the new agency names and acronyms:

- ADWS – Arkansas Division of Workforce Services
- DSB – Division of Services for the Blind
- ARS – Arkansas Division of Workforce Services – Arkansas Rehabilitation Services
- AES – Arkansas Division of Workforce Services – Adult Education Services
- OSD – Office of Skills Development
- DOC – Department of Commerce