



California Workforce Development Board February 2021 Updates

New CWDB Staff and Administration:

Governor Newsom recent appointees:

- Javier Romero, Deputy Director for Workforce Services Branch at Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Rita L. Saenz, of Sacramento, has been appointed Director of the Employment Development Department

CWDB Staffing Updates

- Munny Chitneni, CAAL-Skills Program Manager, started on January 4th, 2021.

Department of Better Jobs and Higher Wages Updates:

HISTORY: On Friday, January 10, Governor Gavin Newsom released the Proposed State Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 which included \$2.4 million in General Fund investment to establish the new department, the California Department of Better Jobs and Higher Wages. The new department is a consolidation of multiple workforce functions dispersed across the Labor and Workforce Development Agency into a new single department under a unified executive leadership and common policy vision. The new department would be comprised of the:

- California Workforce Development Board (CWDB),
- Employment Training Panel (ETP),
- Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Workforce Services Branch (WSB)
- Labor Market Information Division (LMID)
- Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) (currently in the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR)).

The goal of unifying these programs is to create more effectiveness and efficiency in serving Californians and their career goals, along with employers and their business needs.

- The Better Jobs and Higher Wages merger continues to be a priority for Secretary Julie Su and was proposed to be included in the Governor's budget submitted in January 2021.
- Keep in mind, the new department proposal could be enacted in different ways to focus on the Governor's efforts.
- [Dept. of Better Jobs and Higher Wages - Trailer Bill Language](#)

Regional Plan Implementation:

- RPI 4.0 applications have all been read and scored.
 - Funding recommendations have been forwarded to Labor Agency.
 - Hoping to announce awards in February 2021.

Regional Plan Implementation Technical Assistance Efforts:

HISTORY: Collaborative Statewide Training Team continues to meet to fulfill ongoing workforce training needs that have evolve since the onset of the pandemic. The collaboration is between the:

- CWDB Regional Support Manager
- EDD State Rapid Response Coordinator

- [EDD Statewide Training Unit](#)
 - [EDD Disability Employment Initiative Team](#)
 - [Department of Rehabilitation](#)
 - [California Workforce Association](#)
- Special thanks to everyone that completed and shared the Collaborative Workforce Training Needs Assessments/Surveys.
 - Many of you have reached out to obtain your regions survey results. The data is being further analyzed and broken down by region. Hope to have survey results to the regional staff by mid-March 2021 if not sooner.
 - Planning efforts to address multiple needs that came from the survey are in the works.
 - Since the onset of the Pandemic a total of 13 FREE (No-Cost) Statewide Peer-to-Peer Learning Events/Opportunities have been provided statewide. **PLEASE** share these events throughout your regions, local areas, and with workforce partners.
 - All prior events are currently housed in the Regional Plan Implementation Portal and available for regional staff and Directors to access and share event presentations, resources, and recordings as they deem fit.
 - Currently have Statewide Peer-to-Peer events planned through the month of April 2021.
 - **March 2021** – Strategy used to Implement a Successful WIOA Youth Entrepreneurial Program
 - **April 2021** – How to Collaborate with the Employment Training Panel to Scale Efforts

Share New Regional Resources/Tools Developed/Portal Updates:

The Regional Plan Implementation Portal was created in an effort to be a one-stop shop for the Regional workforce staff and Directors to find information, resources, and tools that may be helpful as they continue to evolve and implement their Regional Plans.

Recently, there have been a lot of revisions made to the Regional Plan Implementation Portal. Specifically, the following tabs and resources have been added to the portal:

- CWDB, EDD, LWDA & FOW, WIOA & DOL Reference Materials/Links
- Labor Market /Data Systems & Resources
- Race and Equity - [Houses a variety of trainings, videos, and technical assistance websites, resources, and toolkits](#)
 - Disability Access Trainings, Resources, and Tools
- Digital Inclusion, Digital Literacy – [Provides current resources, tools, and efforts currently being worked on to address Digital Inclusion and Digital literacy.](#)
- Workforce Partners Information/Links
 - Education Partners

Additionally, additional resources and tools have been added to the following tabs:

- Strategic Planning and Commonly Used Websites/Resources
- Regional Training Resources & Commonly Used Websites
- Events
 - Calendar updates for upcoming events
 - Meeting Materials from prior regional events
- Publications
 - Regional Publications with some regional websites, social media, sample PowerPoint presentations, etc. [The Regional Publications tab was created to provide each region an opportunity share their best practices, strategies, resources, and tools developed to help implement their regional plan goals.](#)
 - Peer-to-Peer Learning Opportunity Presentations and Resources added the following presentations, resources, and recordings.

➤ **January 5, 2021**

Presented by: Workforce Development Board of Madera County and Merced County Workforce Development Board – WorkNet

Presentation: Holistic Approaches to Meet Community, Job Seekers, and Employer Needs

- **December 3, 2020**
Presented by: San Diego Workforce Partnership, with support from UC San Diego Extension
Presentation: Collaborating to Implement a Successful Specialized Certification Program
- **November 10, 2020**
Presented by: NOVA Workforce Development Board
Presentation: Reimaging Workforce Services for a Virtual World
- **October 29, 2020**
Presented by: Employment Development Department (EDD) – Special Initiatives, Populations, and Support Unit, Department of Rehabilitation – Disability Access Unit, and EDD – Equal Employment Opportunity Office
Presentation: In Honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- **October 20, 2020**
Presented by: Capital Regions Regional Organizers from Sacramento Employment and Training Agency and Valley Vision
Presentation: Addressing Digital Literacy through Regional Collaboration
- **September 23, 2020**
Presented by: South Bay Workforce Investment Board and EDD ETPL Coordinator
Presentation: Navigating through Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL)
- **August 21, 2020**
Presented by: OneLA Regional Initiative
Presentation: Capitalizing on Partnerships

These resources are FREE (NO COST) and available to share throughout your region.

- Updated/Created Multiple Contact Lists
 - EDD Labor Market Consultants List
 - Statewide Rapid Response Contact List
 - EDD Helpful Workforce Services Contact List
- If you have portal ideas or information you will like to see added, be sure to share your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions with CWDB Regional staff.
- If you identify any errors on the lists, please let CWDB Regional staff know as soon as possible.

Prison to Employment (P2E):

HISTORY: *P2E is intended to strengthen linkages between the state workforce and corrections systems in order to improve the process by which the formerly incarcerated and justice-involved* individuals reenter society and the labor force. The goal is to improve labor market outcomes by creating a systemic and ongoing partnership between rehabilitative programs within California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the state workforce system by bringing CDCR under the policy umbrella of the State Workforce Plan.*

- All RPU calls have been successfully completed. Significant outcomes from the regional calls include:
 - COVID-19 related challenges
 - Inquiries into continued funding
 - Probation/CDCR Referrals-**number of referrals** being received, and the lack of details provided in the referrals.
- P2E relaunch and revisit partnership agreements to look at how business can continue through COVID-19
- UC Riverside has been selected for P2E Evaluation
- Looking to relaunch the P2E newsletter

- CDCR is updating their ARCAID system and a well-attended webinar was hosted by CDCR. [Presentation and information available in the Regional Plan Implementation Portal in the Publications tab.](#)
- Amendments have all been submitted to BOPSD and majority have been executed.
- A survey has been provided to grantees to determine webinar topics that will benefit the regions.

High Road: HRCC, H RTP, and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF):

HISTORY: *The Governor and Labor and Workforce Development Agency Secretary have a High Road vision for California's workforce system. The High Road vision is a sector-based approach that centers equity, job quality, worker voice, and environmental resilience. The State Board is currently implementing two initiatives that support this vision: High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) and High Road Training Partnerships (H RTP). Materials on the Elements of High Road have been provided to regional staff and are posted on the [H RTP initiatives page](#).*

HRCC: SB 1 Program -

HISTORY: *Building off of the pre-apprenticeship training partnerships developed under Prop 39, the HRCC: SB 1 program will expand HRCC into a comprehensive statewide industry sector strategy through the expansion, development and support of a single HRCC pre-apprenticeship partnership in each region of California. These regions are based on groupings of Building and Construction Trade Council jurisdictions and conduct themselves similar to State Plan Regional Planning Units. The goal of HRCC: SB 1 is to establish sustainable, regionally based pre-apprenticeship partnerships that systematically connect disadvantaged workers and communities to long-term middle-class careers through state-approved apprenticeship.*

- HRCC: SB1 Program:
 - The HRCC: SB 1 Program grant term started September 1, 2020. All contracts have been executed.
- HRCC: SB1 Technical Assistance:
 - The CWDB is pleased to announce the HRCC Technical Assistance awards to support the development, implementation, and sustainability of the HRCC regional pre-apprenticeship partnerships:
 - Project Support Network - CA State Building & Construction Trades Council - \$500,000
 - Regional Coordination – CA State Building & Construction trades Council - \$200,000
 - Grant term for Technical Assistance is January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022.
- Information/Reports:
 - The SB 1 Workforce Guidelines are standards for pre-apprenticeship in the construction sector. Developed pursuant to SB 1, these construction pre-apprenticeship standards are applicable across industry segments, policy areas, and workforce investments. To learn more, please see the [SB1 Workforce Guidelines](#).
 - UC Berkeley Labor Center was commissioned to produce a *jobs* report on the Prop 39 K-12 Program. The [final jobs report to the Prop 39 Citizens Oversight Board](#) covers HRCC accomplishments, and how training partnerships achieved such impressive outcomes which benefit job-seekers and the industry alike.
- All questions or to request additional information can be sent to the HRCC inbox at: hrcc@cwdb.ca.gov

High Road Training Partnerships (H RTP) -

HISTORY: *There are currently seven(7) pilot projects (funded with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) discretionary funds) that model a sector approach that addresses critical issues of equity, job quality, and environmental sustainability. H RTPs are industry-based, worker-focused training partnerships that build skills for California's high road employers.*

- Projects are in various stages: Two of the seven projects have ended and the remaining projects were granted extensions to 3/31/2020.
- For information on H RTP, please contact the H RTP general inbox: H RTP@cwdb.ca.gov

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF): CA Climate Investment (CCI) Program -

HISTORY: *The CWDB received \$165 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), (\$35 million annually starting in 19/20) to further invest in H RTP and HRCC. Funding was reduced due to a COVID-related decrease in Cap and Trade. Program outcomes include:*

- ❖ *Strengthening existing and developing new high road training partnerships;*
 - ❖ *Piloting two worker transition projects in sectors and regions facing mass worker dislocation in California;*
 - ❖ *Creating at least 10 new state-approved apprenticeship programs, preparing at least 3,000 disadvantaged Californians for apprenticeship in the trades, and;*
 - ❖ *Prioritizing Community Workforce Agreements and local hiring ordinances throughout the state of California.*
- [GGRF funding guidelines](#) are also available on the H RTP webpage.

H RTP: GGRF CCI Program -

- 12 projects were awarded through a closed (invitation only) RFA, totaling to \$10.1 million in awarded funds.
 - Award list is posted on the [H RTP webpage](#).
 - Projects start April 1, 2021.
- H RTP and HRCC Education Stabilization Funds—Reimagine Workforce Preparation (ESF–RWP) Grants Program Grand Total \$14,886,919.70
- Open/public RFA was released in November 2020. The CWDB is working on award recommendations.
 - Currently working internally to determine next steps towards contract execution.
- For information on H RTP, please contact the H RTP general inbox: H RTP@cwdb.ca.gov

HRCC: GGRF CCI Program -

- HRCC: CCI Program
 - CWDB released an RFA January 2021 to announce the availability of up to \$5.6 million to existing HRCC regional partnerships only. (Funded under the HRCC: SB1 Program)
 - Applications were due February 8, 2021. The CWDB is currently reviewing applications.
- Anticipate awards announcements in April 2021.

Non-Regional Initiative Updates

AB1111 – Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative

HISTORY: *The Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative is intended to supplement existing workforce and education programs by providing services to ensure the success of individuals either preparing to enter or already enrolled in workforce and education programs. The individuals with barriers to employment completing these programs should have the skills and competencies necessary to successfully enter the labor market, retain employment, and earn wages that lead to self-sufficiency, and eventually, economic security. These services must be delivered through a collaborative partnership between mission-driven, community-based organizations with experience in providing services to the target population and local workforce development boards.*

- [AB1111 Data Reporting Guide](#) has been updated and reposted to the [AB1111 website](#). CWDB added a section in the guide to capture the eligibility criteria (target population), Displaced Workers.
- If there are any question or concerns regarding the AB 1111 initiative, contact Kerry Chang at: Kerry.Chang@cwdb.ca.gov or Jennifer Thao at: Jennifer.Thao@cwdb.ca.gov .
- CalJOBS Refresher Training was conducted on January 12-14 2021.
- Peer Learning Community – Principle #2: Explicitly Address Racial and Ethnic Discrimination and Disparities

- This meeting will focus on: The racial disparities in COVID-19 deaths are not a coincidence, but a result of structural inequalities and policy choices. California's true potential will be unlocked through recovery strategies and practices that are conscious of racial realities.
- Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 10AM – 11AM

Workforce Accelerator Fund (WAF) 7.0, 8.0, and 9.0

***HISTORY:** The WAF funds projects that design, develop, and implement projects that accelerate employment and re-employment strategies for California job seekers. The State Board and EDD will fund projects and partnerships to create and prototype innovative strategies that bridge education and workforce gaps for targeted populations, and initial implementation of promising models and practices in workforce system service delivery infrastructure.*

- **WAF - 7.0**
 - The remaining projects are completing final activities and deliverables. No-cost extensions took the all remaining projects (20 organizations) through March 31, 2021.
 - The CWDB and EDD have separate closeout processes. A notice will be sent from CWDB to all main points of contact, as well as EDD-FMU to coordinate final closeout reporting expectations.
 - An additional Funding and Performance Check-in Note will come from the CWDB to coordinate final reporting.
 - If you are a 7.0 project with questions, please reach out to WAF@cwdb.ca.gov.
 - Please include your cohort number in the subject line.
- **WAF - 8.0**
 - 8.0 projects currently in their fourth quarter (January 1st -- March 31st 2021).
 - Quarter 3 Reports are being reviewed/evaluated and the CWDB may be in touch with follow-ups and check-ins.
 - The CWDB is working with the EDD to obtain executed Subgrants and will send electronic copies once received from EDD.
 - Anticipate all Subgrants to be executed by March 1, 2021.
 - Ongoing: Bi-monthly *Housing and Work Peer Learning Community* meetings facilitated by national housing and workforce experts, Heartland Alliance's National Center on Employment & Homelessness.
 - These interactive meetings are focused on advancing employment and economic opportunities for people experiencing homelessness and housing instability, evidence based research and nationally recognized best practices.
 - Next PLC is scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2021.
 - If you are an 8.0 project with questions, please reach out to WAF@cwdb.ca.gov.
 - Please include your cohort number in the subject line.
- **WAF - 9.0**
 - The RFA for WAF 9.0 was released February 1, 2021.
 - Regrouped to structure initiative around high road concepts and projects that will focus on high road elements.
 - Currently accepting applications for three different Project Types:
 - New Projects
 - Innovation Impact Projects
 - Technical Assistance
 - Application Workshop was February 9, 2021
 - Presentation + Q+A will be posted on the [WAF webpage](#).
 - All questions received during the workshop will be included in the 2/12 Q&A.
 - Q&A will be posted weekly each Friday until March 5. Please refer to the WAF 9.0 RFA for more information on the weekly Q&A process and deadlines.
 - Application deadline is March 8, 2021, 3PM Pacific Standard Time.
 - Solicitation information is available on the [WAF webpage](#), including RFA and application forms.

CWDB Policy and Legislative Updates Information Notices, Directives, Guidance:

Regional/Local Planning -

- Regional and Local Planning Guidance PY 21-24
 - Final Directive [WSD 20-05](#) has been posted
- Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification
 - Final Directive In Clearance at EDD
- AJCC Comprehensive and Affiliate/Specialized Certification

Waivers -

- Draft Directive and Information Notice Currently Being Developed
 - Draft Directive will address 2 approved waivers related to OJT and Transitional Jobs
 - Information Notice will address 2 denied waivers related to supportive services and business capitalization

AJCC Evaluation –

- CWDB is working with CWA to identify a future Weekly Local Director’s Meeting where CWDB/CSW/RMC can give a status update on the AJCC Evaluation.

Brief EDD Updates:

EDD General Updates –

- Rapid Response Orientation PowerPoint was updated and sent out on February 3, 2021. Translations will be done in the following languages and will be released as soon as they become available: Spanish, Chinese (Traditional & Simplified), Vietnamese, Hmong, Khmer, Punjabi, and Armenian.

EDD Recently released Directives/Information Notices:

- [WSD20-05](#) - Regional and Local Planning Guidance for PY 21-24
- [WSD20-04](#) - Local Area Modification Process
- [WSIN20-44](#) - California Earned Income Tax Credit
- [WSIN20-43](#) - Resources for Veterans Involved with the Justice System
- [WSIN20-42](#) - Salesforce System Administrator 12-Week Course at Cabrillo College
- [WSIN20-41](#) - Training Expenditure Report
- [WSIN20-40](#) - Workforce Accelerator Fund 9.0 – RFA
- [WSIN20-39](#) - Grant Application Opportunity Pathway Home 2
- [WSIN20-37](#) - America’s Job Center of California System Role in Reopening Local Economies

To read and provide comments on the most current draft directives open for comment, visit the [EDD Draft Directives Open for Comments](#) page.

Mark Your Calendars - Future TA Events, Peer-to-Peer Events, and Training Opportunities

- **Wednesday, March 10, 2021 – EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Introduction to CalJOBS: Layout, Navigation, and Customization***
9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Thursday, March 11, 2021 – Statewide Peer-to-Peer Event featuring: Strategies and Success to Implement a Successful Youth Entrepreneur Training/Program**
10:00 – 11:00am
This **FREE (No Cost)** presentation will share the Orange County Workforce Development Boards experience strategizing to implement a successful and diverse youth entrepreneur training/program. Come and learn funding strategies, meet CEO and Founder of Girls with Impact, Innovator, and Author Jennifer Openshaw, and hear real life testimony from their youth entrepreneur training/program. This event is a rare opportunity to learn, engage, and ask questions to help with considering implementing a successful youth entrepreneur program.
(Log-in information TBA)

- **Friday, March 12, 2021 – EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Assisting Individuals Remotely: CalJOBS from an Individual's Perspective***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Virtual Check-In: VOS Greeter for AJCC Staff***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Building Power Users I: Career Building Tools***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Wednesday, March 24, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Building Power Users II: Utilizing the CalJOBS Resume Tools***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Thursday, March 25, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Building Power Users III: Mastering the CalJOBS Job Search***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, March 30, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Improve Employer Outreach: The CalJOBS CRM Module***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, April 6, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Employer Services I: Creating and Managing Recruiting Employer Accounts***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Wednesday, April 7, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Employer Services II: Creating and Managing Job Orders***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Thursday, April 8, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Employer Services III: Recruiting Candidates***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, April 13, 2021 – Statewide Peer-to-Peer Event featuring: How to Collaborate with the Employment Training Panel (ETP) to Scale Efforts**
 2:00 – 3:00pm
 This **FREE (No Cost)** presentation will consist of the Employment Training Panel sharing who they are, what they do, and how they can help your region/local areas scale existing workforce initiative efforts.
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, April 20, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Program Enrollment I: The WIOA Title I Application***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)

- **Wednesday, April 21, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Program Enrollment II: Participation, Activity Codes and Case Notes***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Thursday, April 22, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Program Enrollment III: Tracking Outcomes, Closure and Follow-Up***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, April 27, 2021 - Bi-Monthly Regional “Specific Topic” Peer-to-Peer Conference Call**
 TOPIC: **TBD**
 9:00 – 10:30am
(Log in information TBA)
- **Friday, April 30, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Go Green! CalJOBS Document Management***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Wednesday, May 5, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Making CalJOBS Work for You: Case Management Tools***
 9:30-11:30am
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Delivering Success I: The Objective Assessment Summary (OAS) ***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Thursday, May 13, 2021 - EDD Statewide Training Team presents: Delivering Success II: The Individual Employment Plan (IEP) ***
 1:30-3:30pm
(Log-in information TBA)
- **Monday & Tuesday, May 17-18, 2021 – Quarterly Regional Event**
 - Monday, May 17, 2021
 1:00 – 4:00pm
 - Tuesday, May 18, 2021
 9:00 – 12:00pm
(Log in information TBA)

() – EDD Statewide Training Team events are subject to change and proper notification will be sent out accordingly to advise. Questions for EDD Statewide Training Team can be sent to: WSBStatewideTrainingUnit@edd.ca.gov*