



California Workforce Development Board May 2021 Updates

New CWDB Staff and Administration:

Governor Newsom recent appointees:

CWDB Staffing Updates

- DeAngelo Jenkins, RPI Analyst, started in April 2021.
- James Hill, P2E Analyst, start date May 11
- Brusly Voong, AB1111 Analyst, started in March 2021.
- Teela Lier, H RTP Analyst, started in March 2021.
- Allison Tans, H RTP Program Manager, starting in May 2021.

Regional Plan Implementation:

- RPI 4.0 subgrants have been executed and all projects, TA and eval have access to funds.
- RPI 4.0 Technical Assistance Providers will include California Workforce Association (CWA) and Jobs for the Future (JFF)
- RPI Evaluation will be conducted by Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW)

Collaborative Statewide Training Team:

***HISTORY:** Collaborative Statewide Training Team continues to meet to fulfill ongoing workforce training needs that have evolved 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*
- Collaborative Statewide Training Team Calendar of events is shared monthly by CWA.
 - All 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. Peer-to-Peer Learning Opportunity Presentations and Resources added to the portal include:
 - **April 13, 2021**
Presented by Robert Meyer and Elsa Wadzinski from the Employment Training Panel.
Presentation: Collaborate with Employment Training Panel to Sustain Your Efforts
 - **March 11, 2021**
Presented by Carma Lacy from the Orange County Workforce Development Board, Jennifer Openshaw and Steve Zales from Girls With Impact (Youth Impact)
Presentation: Successful Strategy Used to Implement a WIOA Youth Entrepreneurship Program
 - **February 9, 2021**
Presenter: California Labor Federation, NCIDC, and La Cooperativa Campesina.
Presentation: Collaborative Rapid Response Consultants

- **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.

Prison to Employment (P2E):

***HISTORY:** P2E is intended to strengthen linkages between the state workforce and corrections systems 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.*

- No updates

High Road Construction Careers (HRCC)

HRCC: SB 1 Program

***HISTORY:** Building off the pre-apprenticeship training partnerships developed under Prop 39, the HRCC: SB 1 program expands HRCC into a comprehensive statewide industry sector strategy through the expansion, development, and support of HRCC pre-apprenticeship partnerships in each Building and Construction Trade Council region. 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 Grant Program:
 - All HRCC: SB1 projects are in progress. Grant term is 9/1/2020 – 8/31/2022.
- HRCC: SB1 Technical Assistance:

- The CWDB funded the California State Building & Construction Trades Council to provide HRCC Technical Assistance to support the development, implementation, and sustainability of the HRCC regional pre-apprenticeship partnerships. Term is January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022:
- Information/Reports:
 - The SB 1 Workforce Guidelines are standards for pre-apprenticeship in the construction sector. 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.
- All questions or to request additional information can be sent to the HRCC inbox at: hrcc@cwdb.ca.gov

HRCC: California Climate Investments (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. HRCC program outcomes include:

- *Expanding to 12 regional HRCC partnerships throughout the State of California based on local Building & Construction Trades Council boundaries.*
- *Serving at least 3,000 disadvantaged Californians prepared for state-approved apprenticeship in the trades.*
- *Establishing Community Workforce Agreements (CWAs) on public works and other projects within each region.*
- *Project and initiative evaluation (done by the CWDB).*
- HRCC: CCI Grant Program
 - As part of the \$165M GGRF investment, the CWDB released a closed RFA that was open to existing HRCC regions/partnerships only. The purpose of the grant program was to expand/strengthen existing HRCC work (started under Prop 39 and currently continuing through HRCC: SB1) and incorporate climate mitigation strategies prioritized under the GGRF funding source.
 - The CWDB awarded eight regions throughout the state of California, with a total award amount of \$5,594,399.65. The [HRCC: CCI Award Announcement](#) can be viewed on the HRCC webpage.
 - Grant term is 6/1/2021 – 3/31/2023. The CWDB is currently preparing for grant implementation and onboarding and trainings will occur in June 2021.
 - Contact HRCC@cwdb.ca.gov with questions or assistance on this grant program.

HRCC: ESF-RWPG

HISTORY: The U.S. Department of Education issued a Notice of Inviting Applications (NIA) in June of 2020. The funding source for the Education Stabilization Fund-Reimagine Workforce Preparation (ESF-RWP) grants is the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The purpose of the ESF–RWP Grants program is to provide support to help States with the highest coronavirus burden create or expand short-term education and training opportunities and/or or career pathways programs that help citizens return to work, become entrepreneurs, or e expand their small businesses. Short term educational programs or career pathways will lead to certificates, badges, micro-credentials, licenses, or other workplace-relevant credentials

that respond to the needs of employers is a requirement for these funds. The High Road Training Partnership and High Road Construction Careers frameworks were a natural fit with the addition of required education partners at the project level.

- HRCC: ESF-RWPG Program
 - One HRCC project was awarded under the ESF-RWPG program: Fresno Workforce Development Board in the amount of \$2,010,607.81.
 - [ESF-RWPG Award Announcement](#)
 - Fresno's HRCC project will align with their existing HRCC work under SB1 and CCI.
 - Grant term is 4/1/2021 – 3/31/2023.
 - Grant onboarding and trainings occurring in April/May 2021.
 - Grant is co-managed with the EDD.
 - Contact HRCC@cwdb.ca.gov with questions or assistance on this grant program.

High Road Training Partnerships (H RTP)

H RTP: California Climate Investments (CCI)

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. H RTP 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: CCI Grant Program

- The CWDB awarded 22 projects through two RFA's in 2021. The first RFA was an invitation to existing or vetted H RTP's and the second RFA was competitive and open to the public to apply.
 - [Closed Solicitation Award Announcement](#) (11 projects) - \$10,106,680.00
 - [Open Solicitation Award Announcement](#) (11 projects) - \$8,935,865.99
- Closed Solicitation awarded projects are referred to as H RTP: CCI Cohort A and Open Solicitation awarded projects are referred to as H RTP: CCI Cohort B.
- H RTP: CCI Cohort A grant term is 4/1/2021 – 3/31/2023.
- H RTP: CCI Cohort B grant term is 6/1/2021 – 3/31/2023. The CWDB is currently preparing for grant implementation and onboarding and trainings will occur in June 2021.
- Contact H RTP@cwdb.ca.gov with questions or assistance on this grant program.

H RTP: ESF-RWP Program -

HISTORY: The U.S. Department of Education issued a Notice of Inviting Applications (NIA) in June of 2020. The funding source for the ESF-RWP grants is the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The purpose of the ESF-RWP Grants program is to provide support to help States with the highest coronavirus burden create or expand short-term education and training opportunities and/or or career pathways programs that help citizens return to work, become entrepreneurs, or e expand their small businesses. Short term educational programs or

career pathways will lead to certificates, badges, micro-credentials, licenses, or other workplace-relevant credentials that respond to the needs of employers is a requirement for these funds. The High Road Training Partnership and High Road Construction Careers frameworks were a natural fit with the addition of required education partners at the project level.

- H RTP: ESF-RWPG Program
 - Four H RTP projects were awarded under the ESF-RWPG program, with a total H RTP award/investment in the amount of \$10,492,668.98
 - [ESF-RWPG Award Announcement](#)
 - Grant term is 4/1/2021 – 3/31/2023.
 - Grant onboarding and trainings occurring in April/May 2021.
 - Grant is co-managed with the EDD.
 - Contact H RTP@cwdb.ca.gov with questions or assistance on this grant program.

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. 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.*

- No updates.
- 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 .

AB 628 – The Breaking Barriers to Employment Grant by Assembly member Eduardo Garcia seeks to build upon the Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative by assisting individuals in obtaining the skills necessary to prepare for jobs in high-demand industries. The program would support individuals who face systemic barriers to employment with training and education programs aligned with regional labor market needs. A copy of the factsheet can be found at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aM9hn7Gw2s3fuYU694TW35iFj2nMDsPe/view>

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**
 - Final projects closed out 3/31/2022. Close-out in progress and WAF 7.0 evaluation in progress.
- **WAF - 8.0**
 - All WAF 8.0 projects are in progress.
 - No-cost extensions were initiated in April 2021 and is in progress for all projects that submitted a formal request. The CWDB will notify all applicable grantees when subgrants have been amended with the additional six-months.
 - 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.
 - 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**
 - Awards will be announced in May 2021. Awarded entities will be notified individually and a formal award announcement will be posted on the <https://cwdb.ca.gov/initiatives/workforce-accelerator-fund/WAF> webpage on the CWDB website. Grant term starts 6/1/2021.

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

Regional/Local Planning -

- Regional and Local Plans Submission deadline was April 30, 2021

Waivers -

- Draft Directive WSD224 Covid-19 WIOA Waiver Guidance – comment period has closed. WSIN20-52 Information Notice was published April 2, 2021.
 - Draft Directive addressed 2 approved waivers related to OJT and Transitional Jobs
 - Information Notice addresses 2 denied waivers related to supportive services and business capitalization

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 Department was included in the Governor's budget submitted in January 2021.
- [Dept. of Better Jobs and Higher Wages - Trailer Bill Language](#)

EDD Directive/Information Notices Updates:

EDD Recently released Directives/Information Notices:

- [WSD20-11](#) - Pseudo Social Security Number in CalJOBS
- [WSD20-10](#) - CalJOBS Participant Reporting
- [WSD20-09](#) - Youth Service Eligible Provider List
- [WSD20-08](#) - AJCC Comprehensive and Affiliate/Specialized Certification
- [WSD20-07](#) - Salary and Bonus Limitations for 2020
- [WSD20-06](#) - Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification

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