

CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FULL BOARD MEETING NOTICE

**Wednesday, April 8th, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Meetings of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) are open to the public except when specifically noticed otherwise in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The board may take action regarding any item listed on the agenda unless listed as information only. Times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. This meeting may be canceled without notice.

All meeting agendas are posted to the CWDB website ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and a full packet with additional details regarding the scheduled agenda items will be available at any physical meeting locations, and at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the CWDB website meeting page at: <https://cwdb.ca.gov/cwdb-home/about-us/our-board/2026-board-meetings/>

Public Viewing and Comments

The public is welcome to comment on any agenda item. Here are several ways the public may participate in our meetings.

1. The meetings will be live-streamed for public viewing on the CWDB YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8j2IMLyol-6ifdLHGTXLiQ>. Comments can be posted on the platform and should identify the agenda item being addressed and be submitted prior to or during the discussion of that agenda item.
2. The public may attend the meeting in person and provide comments or questions at the following locations:
 - a. **Sacramento:** 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1-213 Multi-Purpose Room, Sacramento, CA 95814
 - b. **Bay Area:** 456 W. Olive Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

c. **Southern California:** South Bay Workforce Investment Board, 11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500, Hawthorne, CA 90250

3. Members of the public not physically present at the board meeting may submit public comment to be read during the meeting by emailing BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov. In the subject line, please identify the agenda item being addressed.

Emailed comments are monitored during the meeting and will be read during the allotted time at the meeting. Please note: This email box will only be monitored 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time. Comments or questions in between meetings dates should be directed to CWDBinfo@cwdb.ca.gov.

The public will be allowed to comment or ask questions during the appropriate public comment periods of the meeting if they attend in person. Public comments timely received from email or the CWDB YouTube channel will be read aloud during the public comment period for the agenda item specified. Failure to submit a timely comment or identify the agenda item being addressed may prevent your comment from being read at the meeting.

Any and all written comments provided to the CWDB, including the commentator's identity and contact information, and all contents of emails, will be available to the public in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Government Code section 11125.1 and the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1).

Accommodations

Individuals who require accommodations for their disabilities (including interpreters, sign language translation, alternate document formats, or other auxiliary aids) are requested to contact the California Workforce Development Board staff at (916) 657-1440 at least five business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure the availability of the requested accommodation. Please visit the California Workforce Development Board website at <http://www.cwdb.ca.gov> for additional information.

Contact Person

If you have any questions concerning the agenda, you may contact:

California Workforce Development Board
1416 Ninth Street, 14th Floor
Sacramento CA 95814
T: 916-657-1440
BoardPublicComment@cwdb.ca.gov

**CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, April 8th, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Call to Order

2. Action Items
 - a. Approve October 8, 2025, Meeting Summary
 - b. Approve CWDB Bylaws Amendments
 - c. Approve WIOA Regional Plans
 - d. Approve WIOA Local Plans
 - e. Approve Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification

3. Briefing & Discussion
 - a. FreeWorld Presentation
 - b. Ad Hoc Committee Meetings Update
 - c. Capital Region Update
 - i. Overview of Tour from CWDB Executive Director
 - ii. CWDB Staff Report
 - iii. Regional Leader Report
 - iv. Board Discussion
 - d. Apprenticeships Update

4. Updates & Discussion (Time Permitting)
 - a. Labor & Workforce Development Agency Report
 - b. Budget Report
 - c. Eligible Training Provider List Update
 - d. State Rehabilitation Council Report
 - e. California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Update
 - f. California Department of Education Update

5. General Public Comments

6. Adjournment

CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FULL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

October 8, 2025

The full meeting is available to view on the CWDB YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Rlwjwvq_yY

Full meeting documents, public comments, agenda, and future meeting dates may be found on the [CWDB website](#).

Members Present in Sacramento:

- Chairperson Joanna Rees
- Alysia Bell
- Chancellor Sonya Christian, represented by designee Vice Chancellor Tony Cordova
- Jamil Dada
- Dir. Nancy Farias, represented by designee Javier Romero
- Dr. Angelo Farooq
- Jennifer Haley
- Hala Hijazi
- Stephen Monteros
- Janus Norman
- Nicole Rice
- Dir. Kimberly Rutledge, represented by designee Mark Erlichman
- Honorable Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo
- Jeremy Smith
- Bruce Stenslie

Members Present in San Francisco:

- Dean Fealk
- Leonard Gonzales
- Secretary Stewart Knox, represented by designee Abby Snay
- Gloria Young

Members Present in Southern California:

- Larry Frank
- Jason Haider
- Hilary Lentini
- Robert Redlo
- Avin Sharma
- Honorable Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas
- Amelia Tyagi

CWDB Staff:

- Kaina Pereira, Executive Director
- Emily Sunahara, Deputy Director of Operations
- Myranda Love, Executive Analyst
- Ross Villegas, Communications Analyst
- Liz Steelman, Policy Unit Manager
- Brooke Barnum-Roberts, Chief Counsel
- Ben McDonald, Deputy Counsel & Board Meeting Clerk

AGENDA

- A. Welcome and Opening Remarks
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Call to Order
- B. Discussion on Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - A. AI and the Future of Workforce
 - B. AI in Government
- C. Action Items
 - A. Approve July 9, 2025, Meeting Summary
 - B. Vote on Local Workforce Board Regional Plans
 - C. Vote on Local Workforce Board Local Plans
 - D. Vote on Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification
- D. Updates and Discussion
 - A. Updates and Discussion
 - a. Labor & Workforce Development Agency
 - b. Budget Report
 - c. Legislative Report
 - d. California Jobs First
 - e. Eligible Training Provider List Workgroup Report
 - f. Advisory Groups
 - g. Local Board Engagement
 - h. State Rehabilitation Council Report
 - i. CWDB Meetings in 2026

E. General Public Comment

F. Adjournment

1. Opening Remarks

A. Roll Call & Call to Order

- a. Board Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 10:06 am.
- b. CWDB Deputy Counsel conducted a roll call and found 26 members present and advised the Chair that a quorum was present.
- c. Board Chair welcomed and introduced newly appointed Board Member, Alysia Bell, and recognized her extensive background in workforce development and education.

B. No public comment.

2. Discussion on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

A. AI and the Future of Workforce

- a. The Board held an extensive conversation about AI's transformative impact on the workforce. Panelists included: Naveen Chaddha, Mayfield Fund; Chase Lochmiller, Crusoe Energy Systems; Anton Korinek, University of Virginia; and Meredith Lee, University of California, Berkeley.

B. AI in Government

- a. The board held a detailed conversation on how AI is being integrated into public education and workforce strategies statewide. Panelists included: Chancellor Sonya Chistian, California Community Colleges; Livia Shmavonian, Deputy Cabinet Secretary/ Senior Advisor for Workforce and Economic Development, Governor's Office; Ben Hyman, University of California, Los Angeles; Meredith Lee, University of California, Berkeley; Diane Tavenner, Futre.me; Till von Wachter, University of California, Los Angeles.

C. No public comment.

3. Action Items

A. Approve July 9, 2025, Meeting Summary

- a. The Chair motioned to approve July 9, 2025, Meeting Summary prepared by CWDB staff, and it was seconded.
- b. Vote Taken: Approve July 9, 2025, Meeting Summary
 - i. Yes: Chancellor Sonya Christian represented by designee Vice Chancellor Tony Cordova, Jamil Dada, Dir. Nancy Farias represented by designee Javier Romero, Dean Fealk, Larry Frank, Leonard Gonzales, Jason Haider, Hala Hijazi, Secretary Stewart Knox represented by designee Abby Snay, Hilary Lentini, Stephen Monteros, Janus Norman, Robert Redlo, Chairperson Joanna Rees, Nicole Rice, Dir. Kimberly Rutledge represented by designee Mark

Erlichman, Avin Sharma, Jeremy Smith, Bruce Stenslie, Amelia Tyagi, and Gloria Young.

ii. No: None

iii. Abstentions: Alysia Bell and Dr. Angelo Farooq

c. Motion to approve July 9, 2025, Meeting Summary passed.

d. No public comment.

B. Vote on Local Workforce Board Regional Plans

a. Staff presented on regional plans and aligning resources and investments across 15 planning units. The Chair motioned to approve the Local Workforce Board Regional Plans, and it was seconded.

b. Vote Taken: Approve Local Workforce Board Regional Plans

i. Yes: Chancellor Sonya Christian represented by designee Vice Chancellor Tony Cordova, Jamil Dada, Dir. Nancy Farias represented by designee Javier Romero, Dean Fealk, Larry Frank, Leonard Gonzales, Jason Haider, Hala Hijazi, Secretary Stewart Knox represented by designee Abby Snay, Hilary Lentini, Stephen Monteros, Janus Norman, Robert Redlo, Chairperson Joanna Rees, Nicole Rice, Dir. Kimberly Rutledge represented by designee Mark Erlichman, Avin Sharma, Jeremy Smith, Bruce Stenslie, Amelia Tyagi, and Gloria Young, Alysia Bell, and Dr. Angelo Farooq.

ii. No: None

iii. Abstentions: None

c. Motion to approve Local Workforce Board Regional Plans passed.

d. No public comment.

C. Vote on Local Workforce Board Local Plans

a. Staff presented local operational plans. Several plans that required additional documentation were deferred for finalization at a future meeting. The Chair motioned to approve the Local Workforce Board Local plans, and it was seconded.

b. Vote Taken: Approve Local Workforce Board Local Plans

i. Yes: Chancellor Sonya Christian represented by designee Vice Chancellor Tony Cordova, Jamil Dada, Dir. Nancy Farias represented by designee Javier Romero, Dean Fealk, Larry Frank, Leonard Gonzales, Jason Haider, Hala Hijazi, Secretary Stewart Knox represented by designee Abby Snay, Hilary Lentini, Stephen Monteros, Janus Norman, Robert Redlo, Chairperson Joanna

Rees, Nicole Rice, Dir. Kimberly Rutledge represented by designee Mark Erlichman, Avin Sharma, Jeremy Smith, Bruce Stenslie, Amelia Tyagi, and Gloria Young, Alysia Bell, and Dr. Angelo Farooq.

ii. No: None

iii. Abstentions: None

c. Motion to approve Local Workforce Board Local Plans passed.

d. No public comment.

D. Vote on Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification

a. Staff presented on local area designation and local board recertification. Several local board applications that required additional documentation were deferred for finalization at a future meeting. The Chair motioned to approve the Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification, and it was seconded.

b. Vote Taken: Approve Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification

i. Yes: Chancellor Sonya Christian represented by designee Vice Chancellor Tony Cordova, Jamil Dada, Dir. Nancy Farias represented by designee Javier Romero, Dean Fealk, Larry Frank, Leonard Gonzales, Jason Haider, Hala Hijazi, Secretary Stewart Knox represented by designee Abby Snay, Hilary Lentini, Stephen Monteros, Janus Norman, Robert Redlo, Chairperson Joanna Rees, Nicole Rice, Dir. Kimberly Rutledge represented by designee Mark Erlichman, Avin Sharma, Jeremy Smith, Bruce Stenslie, Amelia Tyagi, and Gloria Young, Alysia Bell, and Dr. Angelo Farooq.

ii. No: None

iii. Abstentions: None

c. Motion to approve Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification passed.

d. No public comment.

4. Updates and Discussion

A. Labor & Workforce Development Agency

a. The Labor & Workforce Development Agency (LWDA) provided updates on California's Master Plan for Career Education and ongoing regional pilot programs focused on opportunity youth in healthcare. LWDA also discussed progress on the Career Passport Credential Registry. Updates were provided on addressing CalFresh

work requirements and workforce interventions being developed in coordination with local regions to support affected populations.

b. No public comment.

B. Budget Report

a. No new WIOA legislation has been authorized since the previous meeting. However, the state budget includes \$10 million in allocations for justice-involved programming and \$19.5 million for healthcare-related training grants, both of which are in the final stages of award distribution.

b. No public comment.

C. Legislative Report

a. Staff provided an overview of relevant workforce-related legislation, including Assembly Bill 338 on wildfire related workforce development needs and Senate Bill 638 establishing the California Education Interagency Council.

b. No public comment.

D. Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Workgroup Report

a. The Board received a report on the ETPL Workgroup about modernization efforts intended to reduce administrative burdens, allow new training program exceptions, simplify data reporting, and automate the integration of community college training data.

b. Public Comment

i. Eight online comments. See Page 8.

ii. In-Person Comment in Southern California – [3:49:02](#)

E. Advisory Groups

a. The Board acknowledged the conclusion of the ETPL Advisory Group's work and discussed the potential formation of new advisory groups, including one focused specifically on Artificial Intelligence and Workforce Innovation.

b. No public comment.

F. Local Board Engagement and California Jobs First

a. The Executive Director summarized recent regional tours that engaged local workforce boards, educational partners, and business leaders to identify best practices and address regional challenges. Plans were announced for ongoing monthly convenings and deeper discussions on critical topics such as AI and automation.

b. No public comment.

G. CWDB Meetings in 2026

a. Future full board meetings were announced for April 8, July 8, and September 9, 2026. Monthly meetings will be scheduled to provide regional updates and thematic discussions throughout the year.

b. No public comment.

H. State Rehabilitation Council Report

a. Board Member Hilary Lentini provided a report on the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).

b. No public comment.

5. General Public Comments

A. 4:02:40 – [Sacramento Public Comment](#)

B. 4:05:45 – [Sacramento Public Comment](#)

6. Adjournment

A. All CWDB business having concluded, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

CWDB October 8, 2025 Board Meeting Public Comments

Public Comment

CWDB - Agenda item 4e - ETPL Reform

October 8, 2015

Good morning, Chair Rees and members of the California Workforce Development Board.

My name is Adele McClain. Please accept my testimony on behalf of Apple Valley Adult School.

My testimony has two main purposes: first, to thank you for your ongoing support, and second, to highlight the critical work still needed to reform the ETPL.

Just over a year ago, WDBs, Community Colleges, Adult Schools, and ROPs from across the state called for ETPL reform, submitting 96 pages of public comment at the August 2024 CWDB meeting. Since then, a statewide ETPL workgroup, in partnership with CWA, championed SB 275, and we are grateful for the progress to date. With EDD's upcoming directive, important changes will soon be in place.

But the most impactful reform is still ahead of us. California must request an **initial eligibility waiver** for publicly accredited Community Colleges, Adult Schools, ROPs, and Universities. These institutions already undergo rigorous state and federal accreditation. Forcing them through duplicative ETPL approvals only creates unnecessary barriers—barriers that limit access for job seekers and stall our state's workforce pipeline.

This waiver is essential. It would immediately unlock a statewide network of high-quality, affordable, publicly accredited training programs. It would expand choices for job seekers, align more closely with employer demand, and deliver greater equity for the communities who depend on public education pathways.

California educates one-fifth of the nation's community college students. If any state should lead on this reform, it's us. Job seekers, employers, and our economy is counting on us!

Thank you for your continued leadership and helping us move this urgent reform forward.

Public Comment
CWDB - Agenda item 4e - ETPL Reform
October 8, 2025

Good morning, Chair Rees and members of the California Workforce Development Board. My name is Christy Smith. Please accept my testimony on behalf of Mendocino-Lake Community College District.

My testimony has two main purposes: first, to thank you for your ongoing support, and second, to highlight the critical work still needed to reform the ETPL.

Just over a year ago, WDBs, Community Colleges, Adult Schools, and ROPs from across the state called for ETPL reform, submitting 96 pages of public comment at the August 2024 CWDB meeting. Since then, a statewide ETPL workgroup, in partnership with CWA, championed SB 275, and we are grateful for the progress to date. With EDD's upcoming directive, important changes will soon be in place.

But the most impactful reform is still ahead of us. California must request an **initial eligibility waiver** for publicly accredited Community Colleges, Adult Schools, ROPs, and Universities. These institutions already undergo rigorous state and federal accreditation. Forcing them through duplicative ETPL approvals only creates unnecessary barriers—barriers that limit access for job seekers and stall our state's workforce pipeline.

This waiver is essential. It would immediately unlock a statewide network of high-quality, affordable, publicly accredited training programs. It would expand choices for job seekers, align more closely with employer demand, and deliver greater equity for the communities who depend on public education pathways.

California educates one-fifth of the nation's community college students. If any state should lead on this reform, it's us. Job seekers, employers, and our economy is counting on us!

Thank you for your continued leadership and helping us move this urgent reform forward.

Thank you,



Christy Pedroncelli Smith
Dean of Career Education

Mendocino College

Pronouns: she/her

A guest on traditional Pomo land

Tel: 707-468-3131

1000 Hensley Creek Rd. | Ukiah, CA 95482

A proud Hispanic-Serving Institution

Public Testimony - Agenda Section 4e

Date: October 8, 2025

From: Jessica Daugherty,
Principal, Cause IMPACTS Consulting &
Regional Organizer, Ventura County Workforce Development Board

Attn: Members of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB).

I am writing in regard to CWDB Agenda Item 4e- about ETPL. Over the past 2 years, our statewide ETPL work group has collaborated to identify what the current challenges are to the ETPL system and processes. Along the way, we [developed recommendations](#) for how to improve the program and access to essential training dollars across the state. As part of this effort, the California Workforce Association (CWA) worked with us to champion SB 275 which included some of the recommendations **but not the most impactful.**

OUR ASK:

I am writing today to ask for your advocacy and support uplifting our [number one priority for ETPL](#) reform that can have HUGE impact and uplift California as a model across the nation.

Please recommend that the state of California request an ETPL initial eligibility waiver for public accredited California Community Colleges, Adult Schools, Regional Occupational Centers/Programs, and Universities. This will put thousands of accredited programs onto the ETPL, providing employers and jobseekers more opportunities to choose from and reducing administrative costs!

The ETPL process currently requires institutions and programs that have already been given state approval through a rigorous accreditation process, to go through an **additional** round of approval prior to being listed on the ETPL. This is additional bureaucracy that is wasteful, administratively burdensome, and a barrier to access for those who need these training dollars the most! Currently, public accredited community colleges, adult schools and Regional Occupational Centers have already undergone an extensive accreditation process for their institutional operations and academic programs. Community Colleges are accredited by the [Accrediting Commission of School \(ACS\)](#) or the [Accrediting Commission for Community Junior Colleges](#) (ACCJC). Further, Adult Schools and Regional Occupational Centers and Programs are accredited by the [Western Association of Schools and Colleges](#) (WASC) or dually accredited by WASC and the Council on Occupational Education (COE).

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE:

Over the past ten years, my social impact consulting firm has worked with dozens of Workforce Development Boards, Adult Schools, and CC Districts. I have seen first hand the hoops that training providers have to go through to get onto the ETPL list and many do not do so because they do not have the internal administrative capacity to fill out the endless paperwork. This directly impacts employers and jobseekers who then have a limited list of training to choose from. In many regions, the ETPL includes only dead-end jobs that do not pay a living wage nor

offer career progression- such as truck drivers. This is unacceptable as it further exacerbates the lack of quality jobs and tracks people into positions with no economic mobility.

Job seekers and employers both need us to request this waiver. So, **please help us get California to request an ETPL initial eligibility waiver for public accredited California Community Colleges, Adult Schools, Regional Occupational Centers/Programs, and Universities.**

Sincerely,

Jessica Nolan Daugherty
Principal | Cause IMPACTS

cell: 714.390.6301

e-mail: jessica@causeimpacts.com

www.causeimpacts.com

Public Comment
CWDB - Agenda item 4e - ETPL Reform
October 8, 2015

Good morning, Chair Rees and members of the California Workforce Development Board.

My name is Israel Dominguez. Please accept my testimony on behalf of the Saddleback College Economic and Workforce Development department.

My testimony has two main purposes: first, to thank you for your ongoing support, and second, to highlight the critical work still needed to reform the ETPL.

Just over a year ago, WDBs, Community Colleges, Adult Schools, and ROPs from across the state called for ETPL reform, submitting 96 pages of public comment at the August 2014 CWDB meeting. Since then, a statewide ETPL workgroup, in partnership with CWA, championed SB 275, and we are grateful for the progress to date. With EDD's upcoming directive, important changes will soon be in place.

But the most impactful reform is still ahead of us. California must request an **initial eligibility waiver** for publicly accredited Community Colleges, Adult Schools, ROPs, and Universities.

These institutions already undergo rigorous state and federal accreditation. Forcing them through duplicative ETPL approvals only creates unnecessary barriers—barriers that limit access for job seekers and stall our state's workforce pipeline.

This waiver is essential. It would immediately unlock a statewide network of high-quality, affordable, publicly accredited training programs. It would expand choices for job seekers, align

more closely with employer demand, and deliver greater equity for the communities who depend on public education pathways.

California educates one-fifth of the nation's community college students. If any state should lead on this reform, it's us. Job seekers, employers, and our economy is counting on us!

Thank you for your continued leadership and helping us move this urgent reform forward.

Best Regards,

Israel Dominguez

Israel Dominguez

Director, Economic & Workforce Development.

Dear Workforce Development Board,

I am writing to respectfully urge the inclusion of an initial eligibility waiver for publicly accredited institutions—such as Community Colleges, Adult Schools, Regional Occupational Programs (ROPs), and Universities—so that they may be automatically added to the Eligible Training Provider List.

Institutions like the Community College where I am employed already undergo a rigorous program approval process, beginning at the local level and culminating with review and approval by the State Chancellor's Office. Requiring an additional, duplicative vetting process places undue burdens on educational entities that are already deeply committed to serving vulnerable student populations.

Streamlining this process is in the best interest of both students and their future employers.

Therefore, I strongly encourage you to include the initial eligibility waiver in the provisions of the planned directive scheduled for release in October.

Sincerely,

Denise Foley

Orange California

Public Testimony - Agenda Section 4e

October 8, 2025

From: Lora Jorgensen, Statewide ETPL Workgroup Chair

Good morning Chair Rees, and Members of the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB).

I'm Lora Jorgensen, Bay Area Community College Consortia, Regional Director of Workforce Partnership and Chair of the Statewide External Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Workgroup. For the past 20 months, I have been leading a statewide working group that collectively identified the current challenges with ETPL and then identified comprehensive reforms that would improve the system, and then advocated for changes.

My testimony today has two main purposes: Remind policy makers how we got here and what's still needed to reform ETPL.

How we got here

Just over a year ago, Workforce Development Boards (WDBs), Community Colleges (CCs), Adult Schools and Regional Educational Programs (ROPsd) from across the state called for ETPL reform. So much that [96 pages of public comment were collected](#) at the 8/24/2024 CWDB Meeting.

Since then, our workgroup in partnership with the California Workforce Association (CWA) have championed SB 275 as our initial advocacy focus. Now, the Employment Development Department (EDD) has agreed to issue a new ETPL Directive in October implementing all of the changes in a directive that we sought to attain via SB275.

So, our ETPL workgroup would like to thank CWDB for helping us achieve this progress to date AND, I'm here today to remind the CWDB that the most impactful ETPL reform has NOT BEEN addressed.

What's still needed:

Our [number one priority for ETPL](#) reform is for the state of California to **request an ETPL initial eligibility waiver for public accredited California Community Colleges, Adult Schools, Regional Occupational Centers/Programs, and Universities.** In short, ensure that courses that are already publicly accredited are offerings that people can use ETPL funding (WIOA) for. This essential reform would allow job seekers across the state to have access to this comprehensive network of vital training programs.

Currently, public accredited community colleges, adult schools and Regional Occupational Centers have already undergone an extensive accreditation process for their institutional operations and academic programs. Community Colleges are accredited by the [Accrediting Commission of School \(ACS\)](#) or the [Accrediting Commission for Community Junior Colleges \(ACCJC\)](#). Further, Adult Schools and Regional Occupational Centers and Programs are accredited by the [Western Association of Schools and Colleges \(WASC\)](#) or dually accredited by WASC and the Council on Occupational Education (COE).

The current problem we need to solve is that the ETPL process currently requires institutions and programs that have already been given state approval through a more rigorous process to go through an additional round of approval prior to being listed on the ETPL. One fifth of community college students in the United States are in CA, so if any state should have a waiver for community college programming (and the like) it's California. Job seekers and employers both need us to close this gap and close it soon; our economy is counting on it.

Lora Jorgensen (she, her, hers)

Regional Director, Workforce Partnerships

Bay Area Community College Consortium (BACCC)

C: 907.830.4180 | lora@baccc.net | baccc.net

Hosted by Cabrillo College



Public Comment

CWDB - Agenda item 4e - ETPL Reform

October 8, 2015

Good morning, Chair Rees and members of the California Workforce Development Board. My name is Beth Cutter and I am the Director at Castro Valley Adult and Career Education, an Adult School in the Bay Area.

I want to start by thanking you for your ongoing support of high quality training programs for California adults. With EDD's upcoming directive, important changes will soon be in place, however there is significant work still needed to reform the ETPL.

California must request an **initial eligibility waiver** for publicly accredited Community Colleges, Adult Schools, ROPs, and Universities. These institutions already undergo rigorous state and federal accreditation. Forcing them through duplicative ETPL approvals only creates unnecessary barriers—barriers that limit access for job seekers and stall our state's workforce pipeline.

This waiver is essential. It would immediately unlock a statewide network of high-quality, **affordable**, publicly accredited training programs. It would expand choices for job seekers, align more closely with employer demand, and deliver greater equity for the communities who depend on public education pathways.

Thank you for your continued leadership and helping us move this urgent reform forward.

Beth Cutter

Director

Castro Valley Adult and Career Education



<http://www.cvadult.org/>

(510) 886-1000



"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

— Maya Angelou

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: California Workforce Development Board Members

FROM: The CWDB Legal Unit

DATE: March 25, 2026

RE: Summary of Proposed Bylaws Amendments for Board Approval

Dear Board Members,

The following memorandum summarizes the proposed amendments to the CWDB Bylaws that will be presented for your vote at the April 8th meeting.

Key Changes:

Article IV – Membership (Section 2)

- Addition: "Optimal board composition should reflect the diversity of California's population."

- States a commitment to representational diversity on the board

Article IV – Membership (Section 5)

- Addition: "CWDB board members do not make, participate in making, or influence decisions regarding CWDB grant awards."

- Provides a safeguard against conflict-of-interest accusations

Article IV – Membership (Section 6)

- New Section Added – "Member Orientation: All members are expected to timely review the latest version of the CWDB onboarding manual shared with them and ensure familiarity with the Board's roles and responsibilities, applicable laws and policies, and strategic goals."

- Makes explicit expectations of board members

M E M O R A N D U M

Article IV – Membership

- Former Section 6 (Resignation and Notice to Governor) renumbered to Section 7
- Former Section 7 (Removal) renumbered to Section 8

Article IV – Membership (Section 9)

- Addition: "Board members must inform the Executive Director and the Chair of any change of employer or employment status within 30 days"
 - Ensures prompt communication of information that affects board composition
- Section renumbered from Section 8 to Section 9 due to addition of Member Orientation section
- Heading changed from "Term Limits" to "Tenure"

Article V – Officers

- Typo corrected: The Chair shall "call and preside at all The CWDB meetings" changed to "call and preside at all CWDB meetings"

Article VI – Committees (Section 1)

- Typo corrected: Special committee membership "may include The CWDB members" changed to "CWDB members"
- Ad Hoc Committees Addition: "CWDB does not grant decision-making authority to ad hoc committees, and they are therefore advisory bodies"
 - Clarifies the status of ad hoc committees of CWDB as merely advisory under the Bagley-Keene Act

M E M O R A N D U M

Article VII – Meetings (Section 1)

- Updated meeting frequency language from "three to four" times per year to "multiple" times per year to provide greater scheduling flexibility
- Changed attendance expectation from "Regular attendance at meetings is expected of each Board member" to "Board members are expected to come prepared and attend meetings regularly" to emphasize both preparation and attendance
- Expanded open meeting compliance from "Subcommittee and ad hoc" meetings to "All committee meetings" for broader transparency
- Addition: "The Board will provide opportunities for public comment on matters within its purview during all public meetings, in accordance with applicable open meeting laws. The Board's actions and decisions will be documented in meeting minutes or other official records, which will be made available to the public through posting on the Board's website"
- Added to state board commitment to public participation and transparency

These amendments enhance clarity, transparency, and operational flexibility while maintaining compliance with state and federal requirements. Please review these changes prior to the vote.

CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

Public Law 113-128, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 requires that each state establish a state workforce development board to carry out certain responsibilities related to the state's workforce investment system. The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) was established through Executive Order (D-9-99) and formalized through the enactment of state statutes at California Unemployment Insurance Code (Unemp. Ins. Code) section 14010 et seq. in 2006.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The CWDB is the body responsible for assisting the Governor in the development, oversight and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system and the alignment of the education and workforce investment systems to meet the needs of the 21st century economy and workforce.

ARTICLE III: GOVERNANCE

The CWDB shall reside within the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency and shall report through its Executive Director to the Secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

ARTICLE IV: THE CWDB MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Appointments

The members of the CWDB are appointed by the Governor in conformity with WIOA §101(b), 20 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) §679.110, and Unemp. Ins. Code, § 14012. In addition, the Senate President Pro Tem shall appoint two legislative members, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint two legislative members. The Governor may add additional members to those required by the California Unemployment Insurance Code.-

Section 2 – Composition

More than 50 percent of the total number of members appointed to the CWDB by the Governor shall be business representatives. (WIOA §101(b).) At least 15 percent of the membership shall be representatives from organized labor. (Unemp. Ins. Code, §14012.) Not less than 20 percent of the members appointed by the Governor shall be representatives of the state workforce. (WIOA §101(b).) The board shall follow all other

compositional requirements as set forth in the law, including the requirements in WIOA, C.F.R., and Unemp. Ins. Code. Optimal board composition should reflect the diversity of California's population.

Section 3 – Designees

A Director of a State Department or a Secretary of a State Agency, either of whom is appointed as a member of a State body, may designate a deputy director of that Department or Agency, exempt from State civil service, to act in the Director's or Secretary's place. (Government Code (Gov. Code), §7.5.) Each Department Director or Agency Secretary may have a designee; however only one designee may vote on behalf of the Department or Agency at any one meeting. If more than one designee is present for a meeting, the Chair will select which designee can participate in voting for that meeting. State Department Directors and Agency Secretaries must notify the Chair in writing of the names and titles of their designees prior to the designees' participation on the CWDB.

A Constitutional Officer may appoint a designee. (Gov. Code, §7.6.) A designee for a Constitutional Officer must be a deputy who is exempt from State civil service. A member of the California Legislature may also name a designee. (Gov. Code, §7.6.) Designees of public agencies shall be employed by or appointees of that agency. The Constitutional Officers must notify the Chair in writing of the names and titles of the designees prior to the designees' participation on the CWDB.

Section 4 – Alternates and Proxies

The CWDB shall not permit absentee or proxy voting at any of its proceedings but shall permit teleconference voting in keeping with Gov. Code, §11123.

Section 5 – Conflict of Interest

Members of the CWDB are subject to a comprehensive body of state law governing conflict of interest. (Gov. Code, §§ 81000-91014). Pursuant to State and federal law, the CWDB has adopted and promulgated a Conflict of Interest Code. The CWDB members, including designees, are required to file statements of economic interests with the CWDB. The CWDB staff will maintain copies on file and deliver the original statements of economic interests to the Fair Political Practices Commission. The statements of economic interests are governed by State law and include the specific kinds of financial information members of the CWDB must disclose. Upon appointment, Board members are required to file an "Assuming Office" statement within 30 days of their appointment. Thereafter, Board members are required to file annual statements. Board members are

also required to file “Leaving Office” statements upon vacating their position. CWDB board members do not make, participate in making, or influence decisions regarding CWDB grant awards.

Section 6 – Member Orientation

All members are expected to timely review the latest version of the CWDB onboarding manual shared with them and ensure familiarity with the Board’s roles and responsibilities, applicable laws and policies, and ~~the~~ strategic goals.

Section ~~7~~6 – Resignation and Notice to Governor

Any member may resign from the CWDB at any time by giving written notice to the Governor, the Chairperson, and the Executive Director. Resignation shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notice or any later time specified therein. The CWDB shall then notify the Governor in writing by electronic submission immediately when a vacancy occurs and when a vacancy on the Board remains unfilled for more than 60 days.

Section ~~7~~8 – Removal

The Governor has sole authority to appoint and to remove members of the CWDB, except with respect to the legislative members appointed under Article IV, Section 1, who may be removed by their respective appointing authorities. The Chair, on behalf of the Executive Committee, may request the written resignation of any ~~The~~ CWDB member who fails, without good cause, to attend three consecutive ~~The~~ CWDB meetings or who otherwise demonstrates an inability or unwillingness to actively participate in the meetings, discussions, activities, and decisions of the CWDB. In the event that such a member fails to submit a written resignation, the Chair, on behalf of the Executive Committee, may forward a written recommendation for removal to the Governor.

Section ~~9~~8 – ~~Tenure~~m Limits

Members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority until such a time as they resign or are removed from office. The Board shall consider the number of current vacant seats before submitting a recommendation for removal to the Governor. Any such recommendation shall include the number of current vacant seats. Board members must inform the Executive Director and the Chair of any change of employer or employment status within 30 days.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

The CWDB shall have two officers: the CWDB Chair (Chair) and the CWDB Vice-Chair

(Vice-Chair). The Chair shall be a business representative on the board appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

The Chair shall call and preside at all ~~The~~ CWDB meetings and perform other duties as required by the CWDB. The Vice-Chair shall act as Chair in the Chair's absence and perform other duties as required.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Section 1 – Committee Structure

The CWDB will operate with a committee structure comprised of standing committees, special committees, and ad hoc committees:

Standing Committees – are constituted to perform continuing functions and are permanent committees of the CWDB. A standing committee is comprised of CWDB members for purposes of voting. A standing committee shall have a minimum of five members in addition to the chair and the vice chair of the committee. A standing committee is established or discontinued through an amendment to these bylaws. With the exception of the Executive Committee, the Chair shall designate the chair, vice-chair, and members of a standing committee annually, subject to ratification by the full CWDB.

The committee chair shall be the presiding officer at all committee meetings. The committee vice-chair shall assume the duties of the committee chair in the committee chair's absence.

Special Committees – are assigned specific tasks and assignments by the CWDB Chair. Membership may include ~~The~~ CWDB members and State and local partners, stakeholders, practitioners, and customers, all as voting members. Unless otherwise specified in the description of the committees adopted as part of these bylaws, the CWDB Chair shall designate the chair, vice-chair, and members of each special committee, subject to ratification by the Executive Committee.

The committee chair shall be the presiding officer at all committee meetings. The committee vice-chair shall assume the duties of the committee chair in the committee chair's absence.

Ad Hoc Committees – are informal workgroups, task forces, councils and other formal sub-groups comprised of CWDB members, and/or CWDB staff, and/or State and local partner, stakeholder, and practitioner staff. Ad hoc committees may be established by the Chair, the Executive Director, or special committee chairs, and are not subject to

ratification by the full CWDB nor the Executive Committee.

Ad hoc committees are time-limited and task-oriented and are formed to develop work products for the CWDB. Each Ad hoc committee shall remain in existence only as long as necessary to fully address the task with which it is charged. CWDB does not grant decision-making authority to ad hoc committees, and they are therefore advisory bodies.

Section 2 – Standing Committees

There shall be two standing committees of the CWDB:

The Executive Committee – shall be chaired by the CWDB Chair and shall consist of the Vice-Chair, the Secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (or the Secretary’s designee), and the Executive Director of the CWDB. The membership of the Executive Committee shall reflect the membership of the full CWDB. The CWDB Chair shall have the discretion to appoint additional members to the Executive Committee as deemed appropriate.

The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, as required by CWDB meetings, issues, activities, and workflow. It shall provide recommendations to the full CWDB regarding committee assignments; coordinate the work of standing, special, and ad hoc committees; develop agendas for CWDB meetings; and shall be empowered to take action on behalf of the full CWDB in instances where urgency and time constraints do not permit items to be acted upon by the full CWDB. All such actions and commitments shall be reported to the full CWDB at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Green Collar Jobs Council – shall be comprised of appropriate representatives from the CWDB’s existing membership and meet at the call of the Chair. The Green Collar Jobs Council shall perform the duties and responsibilities specified in Sections 15002 - 15003 of the California Unemployment Insurance Code and shall report all actions to the full CWDB at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1 – Board Meetings

The CWDB shall conduct at least one, full, public meeting each year. It is the goal of the CWDB, however, to conduct full meetings ~~three to four~~ multiple times each year and in such locations as will facilitate the work of the CWDB and the participation of the public. Board members are expected to come prepared and attend meetings regularly. Regular attendance at meetings is expected of each Board member.

-The meetings will be open and accessible to the public and will be publicly announced. ~~Subcommittee and ad hoc~~ All committee meetings shall be conducted in compliance with open meeting rules. The Board will provide opportunities for public comment on matters within its purview during all public meetings, in accordance with applicable open meeting laws. The Board's actions and decisions will be documented in meeting minutes or other official records, which will be made available to the public through posting on the Board's website.

The CWDB and its Committees may hold a meeting by conference telephone or other electronic equipment (e.g., electronic video screen communications) by means of which (a) all members participating in the meeting can simultaneously hear or read each other's communications during the meeting, and (b) all meetings are publicly noticed and accessible to the public in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. Electronic participation in any such meeting shall constitute presence at the meeting, in accordance with Gov. Code §11123 et seq.

Section 2 – Board Quorum

A quorum is defined as a majority of the members appointed to the CWDB. If a quorum is not present at a CWDB meeting, the CWDB may not vote or take action, but members in attendance may continue to meet for the purpose of discussion, including taking public testimony on agenda items.

ARTICLE VIII: CLOSED MEETINGS

A closed session of the CWDB may be called to discuss personnel issues, pending litigation, or any other matters appropriate for a closed meeting under Gov. Code, §11126. The Chair may call for a closed meeting, or a closed meeting may be called by any member, with a majority vote.

ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the CWDB in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, any special rules of order the Board may adopt, or any applicable State and federal laws and regulations.

ARTICLE X: CHANGES IN BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended or replaced and new Bylaws adopted by the approval of

a majority vote by those members voting at a ~~The~~ CWDB meeting with a quorum present, provided that the amendment is not in conflict with any State or federal laws/regulations and had been noticed in writing to all CWDB members 30 days in advance of any proposed action by the CWDB.

DRAFT

CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

Public Law 113-128, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 requires that each state establish a state workforce development board to carry out certain responsibilities related to the state's workforce investment system. The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) was established through Executive Order (D-9-99) and formalized through the enactment of state statutes at California Unemployment Insurance Code (Unemp. Ins. Code) section 14010 et seq. in 2006.

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The CWDB is the body responsible for assisting the Governor in the development, oversight and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system and the alignment of the education and workforce investment systems to meet the needs of the 21st century economy and workforce.

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ARTICLE IV: THE CWDB MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Appointments

The members of the CWDB are appointed by the Governor in conformity with WIOA §101(b), 20 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) §679.110, and Unemp. Ins. Code, § 14012. In addition, the Senate President Pro Tem shall appoint two legislative members, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint two legislative members. The Governor may add additional members to those required by the California Unemployment Insurance Code.

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ARTICLE X: CHANGES IN BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended or replaced and new Bylaws adopted by the approval of a majority vote by those members voting at a CWDB meeting with a quorum present, provided that the amendment is not in conflict with any State or federal laws/regulations and had been noticed in writing to all CWDB members 30 days in advance of any

proposed action by the CWDB.

DRAFT

Ad Hoc Committee Highlights (Jan–Mar 2026)

The ad hoc committee meetings have provided an overview of California's strategic efforts to advance the California Jobs First and Master Plan for Career Education initiatives by fostering alignment with economic development priorities, strengthening workforce pathways, and investing in future-focused industries across various regions of the state.

A common theme across the three meetings CWDB has hosted so far has been a commitment to understanding local workforce development and education in our regions. In the Inland Empire, discussions centered around rapid regional population growth and the booming social services and healthcare sectors, with efforts focused on K–16 alignment, the development of a digital career passport, and leveraging Workforce Pell grants to support stackable credentials.

Similarly, the Bay Area update showcased workforce innovation through expanding healthcare programs and the High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) program, which provides pre-apprenticeship training and crucial supportive services such as stipends, childcare, and transportation to prepare priority populations for trade apprenticeships.

The Redwood Coast also underscored the importance of education transformation, noting Humboldt State's conversion into Cal Poly Humboldt with a focus on STEM and a healthcare education hub, alongside efforts to support Native American communities in workforce development.

CWDB staff and state partners also provided an update on related K–16 work to align education partners at the regional level to construct cohesive career pathways. The California Community Colleges highlighted the career passport initiative (a digital foundation of verified credentials) and credit for prior learning to translate work-based training into academic credit. Labor & Workforce Development Agency shared progress on a statewide credential list/registry to inform the career passport, including criteria to assess credentials (e.g., opportunity, ROI, economic mobility, job stability, academic advancement, reliability) and alignment with Workforce Pell; a soft rollout is anticipated in July.

The California Department of Education reported it is updating curriculum standards (K–12-focused, broadly applicable), and the Department of General Services provided a K–16 grant administration status update, including its

contract with the Foundation for California Community Colleges to administer \$250M supporting pathway completion.

Another theme we've seen was the value of strategic sector investments and impacts on regional economic growth. The Inland Empire is actively working to attract companies through job training in green tech. The Bay Area is making substantial investments in sectors aligned with California Jobs First priorities, including advanced manufacturing, clean energy, transportation electrification, healthcare, and early care and education, having distributed \$9 million in catalyst funding across 10 convenings. The Redwood Coast is focusing on foundational industries like agriculture and forestry, adapting them for fire resilience, and developing emerging sectors such as offshore wind, technology, and maritime.

The ad hoc committee meetings have also delved into emerging technologies and future-proof strategies to ensure California's competitive edge. A significant discussion focused on Quantum California, highlighting the state's leadership in quantum innovation. This includes GO-Biz's \$4 million investment under CA Jobs First to develop a quantum strategy, with the aim of cultivating a quantum-literate workforce for an estimated 250,000 quantum jobs by 2030. These efforts demonstrate a proactive approach to preparing the state's workforce for the jobs of the future.

Overall, the ad hoc committee meetings have showcased how California is strategically addressing diverse regional needs, investing in critical industries, and preparing its workforce for future opportunities. By integrating regional insights and fostering collaboration among various stakeholders, CWDB staff believe the ad hoc committee meetings directly support the overarching goals of the administration to create a sustainable economy, generate good jobs, and ensure equitable outcomes for all Californians while being focused on the communities themselves and people within them. Continued board participation is essential to the success of this effort.

Our upcoming meetings are planned to get deeper into other regions such as Kern, and the Southern Border, and cover topics like the state budget, manufacturing, and others, but we want to be sure these efforts are in line with what you need and want to know.