

KANSAS
Workforce Innovation and
Opportunity Act
Regional Plan
Requirements

January 31, 2017

Planning Regions

Region I: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Smith, Jewell, Republic, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Graham, Rooks, Osborne, Mitchell, Cloud, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis, Russell, Lincoln, Ottawa, Greeley, Wichita, Scott, Lane, Ness, Rush, Barton, Rice, Ellsworth, Saline, Dickinson, Morris, Chase, Hamilton, Kearny, Finney, Hodgeman, Pawnee, Edwards, Stafford, Stanton, Grant, Haskell, Gray, Ford, Kiowa, Pratt, Morton, Stevens, Seward, Meade, Clark Comanche, Barber, Lyon, Coffey, Anderson, Greenwood, Woodson, Allen, Bourbon, Elk, Wilson, Neosho, Crawford, Chautauqua, Montgomery, Labette, Cherokee, Miami, Linn

Region II: McPherson, Marion, Reno, Harvey, Kingman, Sedgwick, Butler, Harper, Sumner, Crowley

Region III: Washington, Marshall, Nemaha, Brown, Doniphan, Clay, Riley, Pottawatomie, Jackson, Atchison, Jefferson, Leavenworth, Wyandotte, Geary, Wabaunsee, Shawnee, Douglas, Johnson, Osage, Franklin

Regional Plan Instructions

Representatives from Local Workforce Development Boards and their chief elected officials in each planning region must participate in a regional planning process and develop a plan which includes a description of the activities below and which *incorporates local plans for each of the Local Areas in the planning region*, consistent with any guidance issued by the US Department of Labor and the Kansas Department of Commerce, and all State Workforce Board policies and guidance. Regional plans must meet the purposes as required in §679.500 of the Title I Final Rule and also detail economic development collaboration to support Sector Strategies.

Regional plans must include strategies for every county in the planning region, effectively creating sub-regions. For example, one planning region may consist of both rural and urban areas with differing needs. The regional planning process must result in more than one regional strategy to ensure every part of the region is supported.

Local Workforce Development Boards must convene a wide variety of stakeholders to complete the activities listed below. Stakeholders may include regional WIOA core, required and other service-delivery organizations, economic development organizations, employers, professional associations, labor organizations, transportation providers, training providers including secondary and postsecondary institutions and boards, and other local partners which represent geographical areas from across the planning region.

- The establishment of regional service strategies, including use of cooperative service delivery agreements;
- The development and implementation of sector initiatives for in-demand industry sectors or occupations for the planning region;
- The collection and analysis of regional labor market data (in conjunction with the State) which must include the local planning requirements at § 679.560(a)(1)(i) and (ii) (regional economic conditions; workforce needs of both existing and emerging industry sectors and occupations; knowledge and skills needed by job seekers to meet the existing and emerging needs);
- The coordination of administrative cost arrangements, including the pooling of funds for administrative costs, as appropriate;
- The coordination of transportation and other supportive services as appropriate;

- The coordination of services with regional economic development services and providers; and
- The establishment of an agreement concerning how the planning region will collectively negotiate and reach agreement with the Governor on local levels of performance for, and report on, the performance accountability measures described in WIOA sec. 116(c) for local areas or the planning region.

Regional Plan Submission

Prior to the date on which the local board submits a regional plan, the Local Board shall—

- (1) make available copies of a proposed regional plan to the public through electronic and other means, such as public hearings and local news media;
- (2) allow members of the public, including representatives of business, representatives of labor organizations, and representatives of education to submit to the local board comments on the proposed regional plan, not later than the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the proposed regional plan is made available; and
- (3) include with the regional plan submitted to the Governor under this section any such comments that represent disagreement with the plan.

PLAN SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL.—A regional plan submitted to the Kansas Department of Commerce shall be considered to be approved by the Governor at the end of the 90-day period beginning on June 21, 2017.

In addition to Public Comments, the Regional Workforce Development Plan submission should include copies of signed MOUs with all regional partners outlining the commitments of each partner for implementing the regional strategies.

The Local Workforce Development Board must submit an electronic copy of the Regional Plan signed by the Local Workforce Development Board Chair and the Chief Elected Officials Board Chair, along with all attachments, no later than **4:00 PM, June 21, 2017** to WorkforceSvcs@ks.gov