**STATE WORKFORCE BOARD**

**Overview**

The State Workforce Board’s (SWB) purpose is to ensure that Maine’s workforce development system helps Maine people and businesses compete successfully in the global economy, by convening state, regional and local workforce system partners to:

* enhance the capacity and performance of Maine’s workforce development system,
* align and improve the outcomes and effectiveness of workforce programs and investments,
* promote economic growth, and
* engage businesses, workers, education providers, economic development, labor representatives and other stakeholders to achieve Maine’s strategic and operational workforce vision and goals.

The SWB’s vision for Maine’s workforce system:

*Maine’s residents and businesses will have economic opportunity and contribute to the growth of Maine through a responsive, networked and coordinated workforce development system across public and private sectors. The system will integrate all stakeholders into a seamless continuum resulting in increased educational and employment attainment for residents with a focus on careers, not just jobs, and support Maine’s business sectors with skilled and qualified workers.*

This SWB’s vision focuses on three goals which target the state’s workforce resources to achieve the goals outlined in Maine’s 10-year economic development plan:

1. Maine’s untapped labor pool, those with significant barriers to employment, will find jobs and advance into high-demand occupations of their choice through public investment in training, education and supports.
2. Current and future workers will be equipped to meet industry talent needs, with the goal that 60% of Maine’s workforce will hold a credential of value by 2025.
3. Maine will create a connected, aligned and demand-driven workforce system across public and private partners that fosters the growth of the state’s economy while supporting equitable, safe, and productive employment opportunities for all residents.

The SWB has four advisory committees to support the board in serving Maine's diverse economy and initiatives:

1. Worker Employment, Education and Training Committee
2. Industry Leadership Committee
3. Workforce System Coordination Committee
4. Commissioner on Disability Employment

**Roles and Responsibilities of SWB Members:**

* Board members are nominated by the Governor, and confirmed by the Maine Legislature, to serve a three-year term.
* The SWB meets quarterly (4 times a calendar year). Board members are required to attend each SWB meeting.
* SWB members are required to serve on at least one advisory committee and attend regular advisory committee meetings. Advisory committees meet every other month (6 times per calendar year.
* SWB members will become knowledgeable about the workforce system and the SWB’s role within the system.
* SWB members are expected to come to Board and advisory committee meetings well prepared and well informed about the issues on the agenda.
* SWB members are expected to contribute to meetings by expressing your point of view, and consider other points of view, make constructive suggestions, and help the Board make decisions that benefit those persons the Board serves within the workforce system.
* SWB members are expected to represent the workforce system and SWB to individuals, the public, and other organizations in a positive and professional manner.
* SWB members will support the Board, as needed, through attendance at special events and activities.
* SWB members will continue to increase their knowledge about the workforce system through learning opportunities.
* SWB members should be open to taking on Board leadership roles when asked.
* SWB members will maintain confidentiality of Board discussion, as appropriate.
* SWB members will share information about the industry or profession represented in terms of trends, opportunities, developments, and activities that could impact the public workforce system.