



Workforce Investment Board

*To ensure a workforce prepared
for today and tomorrow.*

Workforce Investment Board
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What is the Lake County Workforce Investment Board?

The Lake County Workforce Investment Board is a key player in the economic growth and competitiveness of Lake County. The Board functions as a convener, an innovator, and a facilitator of strategic partnerships between the private sector, non-profit agencies, educational institutions, local elected officials, local government agencies, labor, job training and education programs.

Who are the Workforce Board Members?

County Board Chairman Suzi Schmidt appoints Workforce Investment Board members from the leading companies and organizations that represent the economy of Lake County. Individuals are key decision makers with specialized knowledge and insight into our targeted initiatives. They have skills in long range planning, group problem solving, and capital investment strategies with business development background.

What is the Role of the Workforce Board?

The Lake County Workforce Investment Board focuses on establishing and promoting workforce development policies and systems that improve the social and economic life of the county. It brings together a consortium of key players from business, education, labor, and government to identify workers' and employers' needs and develops ways to meet them. The Lake County Workforce Board:

- Builds the partnerships and alliances needed to advance the local and regional economy on an industry sector basis;
- Acts as a catalyst to create a framework for a business driven workforce system that builds a competitive workforce and economy now and into the future; and
- Pursues regional approaches for addressing workforce issues in partnership with the eight other boards in the Chicago Metropolitan Region.

Our Regional Approach and Partnerships

The Lake County Workforce Investment Board is part of a consortium - The Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago, made up of nine workforce boards that serve the city of Chicago and the counties of Cook, DuPage, DeKalb, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, Livingston, McHenry and Will. Their role is to facilitate connections between employers, qualified candidates and vital workforce development services. The Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago are committed to building a demand-driven workforce system, linking workforce development activities with economic development activities.

The partnership is based upon the belief that collaboration among local area workforce boards is key in producing greater impact across Metropolitan Chicago. The ultimate objective is to drive strategic alliances between business, industry, education and the community to advance the region's economic vitality.

The consortium's pursuits range from supporting industry and economic development of connecting business and education to helping develop the emerging workforce and include:

- Convening industry summits;
- Initiating working relationships among regional stakeholders;
- Targeting and pooling resources for maximum impact and efficiency;
- Identifying services gaps and skill shortages and developing strategies to address these workforce obstacles; and
- Supporting career awareness and preparation initiatives for the emerging workforce.

By addressing the needs of industry sectors and aligning regional partnerships, the Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago are helping to sustain economic growth, benefiting employers, job seekers and counties.

For more information see www.workforceboardsmetrochicago.org