



DeKalb County Workforce Plan

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act | 2024 to 2027

The DeKalb County Local Workforce Area (Local Area 5) is comprised of DeKalb County, GA

Area 5: DeKalb County – WIOA Plan for 2024-2027

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1. Identification of the Fiscal Agent – Provide an identification of the entity responsible for the disbursement of grant funds described in WIOA § 107(d)(12)(B)(i)(III) as determined by the chief elected official.

Local Workforce Development Area 5 is comprised of a single service area, DeKalb County. In accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Chief Local Elected Official has named the WorkSource DeKalb Board as the local Board for the area. IN THE DOOR, LLC. is the One-Stop Operator and as designated in the Chief Local Elected Official-Fiscal Agent Agreement, the Fiscal Agent is as follows:

DeKalb County Government
Finance/Budget Department
1300 Commerce Drive, 4th Floor
Decatur, GA 30030

2. Description of Strategic Planning Elements – Provide a description of the strategic planning elements listed below. A complete answer will rely on a variety of data sources and employer input. Also describe how the information was gathered and what partners and employers were consulted.

- a. Provide an analysis of the regional economic conditions including existing and emerging in-demand industry sectors and occupations; and the employment needs of employers in those industry sectors and occupations. Include the listing of occupations in demand within the region and describe how the list was developed citing source data.**

Overview. In 2023, the metro Atlanta region was home to nearly 2.4 million jobs. Overall, employment has grown steadily over the past 10 years, adding over 140,000 jobs despite a dip in employment due to the Great Recession and COVID. The largest industries in 2023 were Healthcare and Social Assistance, and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, Transportation and Warehousing, Administrative and Support and Waste Management. Combined, these four industries represented over one-third of all employment in the region. While these occupational groups employ the most people, Administrative Support generally offered lower annual wages than the region's overall average.

The next five years for the metro Atlanta region was projected to add almost 192,000 jobs; nearly 90% expected due to replacement needs (retirement, relocation, temporary leave, etc.).

Regional In-Demand Industries. The five (5) in-demand industries are as follows:

- Healthcare
- Information Technology
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Skilled Trades

These five (5) were selected for a variety of reasons, including their employment size, past and projected growth, demand for workers, existing skills gaps, prevalence to multiple counties in the region, and the accessibility and quality of the jobs offered. Other considerations were the impacts of COVID-19 and the potential for automation of jobs in those industries.

Healthcare

Healthcare represents a range of sub-industries, including offices of physicians, hospitals, home health services, and nursing homes. It accounted for almost 250,000 jobs in the Atlanta region in 2023. General and Medical Surgical Hospitals account for almost one-third of this industry's employment, representing over 75,000 jobs. Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) is another major sub-industry, accounting for 58,000 jobs. The tables below represent the top sub-industries within each industry.¹

Between 2018 and 2023 the Healthcare industry added 33,000 jobs. This growth was led by Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists) which added approximately 14,000.

Historic Change in Healthcare Industry Employment, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
		Employment		5 Year	
NAICS	Industry	2018	2023	# Change	% Change
622110	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	77,271	75,828	-1,443	-2%
621111	Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	45,612	58,753	13,141	29%
624410	Child Care Services	22,971	23,397	426	2%
621610	Home Health Care Services	14,380	20,574	6,194	43%
621210	Offices of Dentists	15,533	17,049	1,516	10%
624120	Services for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities	8,738	10,134	1,396	16%
Total - Healthcare Industry		266,276	299,360	33,084	12%
Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3					

Employment in the Healthcare industry is expected to continue to grow rapidly, expanding employment by 13%, or over 30,000 new jobs. The Offices of Physicians (Except Mental Health Specialists) sub-industry was projected to drive employment growth in the industry, adding over 13,100 jobs, respectively. The employment demand will largely be driven by replacement demand, which accounts for 87% of annual employment demand. The Healthcare sub-industries that are projected to add the most jobs over the next five (5) years are summarized in the following table.

Projected Change in Healthcare Industry Industry, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region

¹ Please note, the acronym NAICS as used in all tables represents the North American Industry Classification System.

		5- Year Projection		Employment Demand		
NAICS	Industry	# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
622110	General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	3,950	5%	790	11%	89%
621111	Office of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	4,075	7%	815	14%	86%
624410	Child Day Care Services	586	3%	117	4%	96%
621610	Home Health Care Services	2,566	12%	513	18%	82%
621210	Offices of Dentists	1,139	7%	228	12%	88%
624120	Services for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities	1,656	16%	331	19%	81%
Total - Healthcare Industry		23,147	8%	4629	13%	87%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>						

Information Technology

The Information Technology industry is another major employer in the metro Atlanta region, accounting for over 94,000 jobs. It is composed of businesses ranging from data centers to software designers and consultants. The largest sub-industries are Software Publishers; Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services; Wired Telecommunications Carriers; Motion Picture and Video Production; and other Telecommunications entities, which account for over 69% of the jobs.

Information Technology Industry Overview, 6 Digit NAICS – Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	2023 Jobs	% of All Jobs	Location Quotient	Avg Ann Wages
513210	Software Publishers	20,237	22%	1.92	\$155,807
518210	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	17,408	19%	2.14	\$157,598
517111	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	14,226	15%	1.86	\$130,359
512110	Motion Picture and Video Production	16,914	17%	3.83	\$91,581
517810	All Other Telecommunications Carriers	5,977	6%	8.25	\$208,111
516120	Television Broadcasting	4,027	4%	6.36	\$216,728
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Between 2018 and 2023, the Information Technology industry added over 12,000 jobs, expanding employment by 15%. This growth was driven by the Motion Picture and Video Production sub-industry, which added over 10,000 jobs.

Historic Change in Information Technology Employment, 6 Digit NAICS – Atlanta Region

		Employment		5 Year	
NAICS	Industry	2018	2023	# Change	% Change
513210	Software Publishers	13,792	20,237	6,445	47%
518210	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	10,554	17,408	6,854	65%
517111	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	24,009	14,226	-9,783	-41%
512110	Motion Picture and Video Production	11,080	12,354	1,274	11%
517810	All Other Telecommunications	1,404	5,977	4,573	326%
516120	Television Broadcasting	4,691	4,027	-664	-14%
516210	Media Streaming Distribution Services, Social Networks, and Other Media Networks and Content Providers	6,596	3,219	-3,377	-51%
517112	Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)	5,044	2,651	-2,393	-47%
Total – Information Technology Industry		91,033	94,054	3,021	3%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Growth in Information Technology is expected to continue to grow over the next five (5) years. The industry is expected to add over 6,000 jobs, expanding employment by 7%. Growth is primarily driven by Software Publishers, Web Hosting and related services followed by Motion Picture and Video Production. The employment demand will largely be driven by replacement demand, which accounts for 87% of annual employment demand.

Projected Change in Information Technology Employment, 6 Digit NAICS – Atlanta Region						
		5- Year Projection		Employment Demand		
NAICS	Industry	# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
513210	Software Publishers	2,379	12%	476	24%	76%
518210	Computing Infrastructure Providers, Data Processing, Web Hosting, and Related Services	1,720	10%	344	20%	80%
517111	Wired Telecommunications	305	2%	61	5%	95%
512110	Motion Picture and Video	760	6%	152	12%	88%
517810	All Other Telecommunications	161	3%	32	6%	94%
Total – Information Technology Industry		6,416	7%	1,283	13%	87%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>						

Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

The Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics industry includes a range of groups, including Truck Freight, Air Transportation, and Warehousing. In the Atlanta region, it represents nearly 130,000 jobs. As shown in the following table, the largest sub-industries include General Warehousing and Storage Scheduled Passenger Air Transportation, and Couriers and Express Delivery Services.

Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics Industry Overview, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	2023 Jobs	% of Jobs	LQ	Avg Ann Wages
493110	General Warehousing and Storage	47,928	24%	1.72	\$44,611
481111	Scheduled Passenger Air Transportation	34,555	17%	4.54	\$132,884
492110	Couriers and Express Delivery Services	22,415	11%	1.37	\$48,317
484122	General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Less Than Truckload	13,183	6%	1.33	\$68,039
488510	Freight Transportation Arrangement	12,222	6%	2.68	\$82,170
Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3					

Transportation, Distribution and Logistics has expanded over the past five years, adding nearly 40,000 jobs, expanding employment by 25%. The largest sub-industries in the Transportation and Logistics industry are summarized in the following table.

Historic Change in Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics Industry, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	Employment		5-Year History	
		2018	2023	Empl Change	% Change
493110	General Warehousing and Storage	22,948	47,928	24,980	109%
481111	Scheduled Passenger Air Transportation	39,126	34,555	-4,571	-12%
492110	Couriers and Express Delivery Services	17,664	22,415	4,751	27%
484121	General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload	12,417	13,183	766	6%
488510	Freight Transportation Arrangement	7,961	12,222	4,261	54%
Total - Transportation & Logistic Industry		162,227	203,181	40,954	25%
Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3					

Growth in the industry is projected to continue, but at a lower rate over the next five (5) years. Specifically, Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics in the Atlanta Region is expected to add 14,600 jobs, expanding employment by 11%. The sub-industries that

demonstrated strong growth over the past 5 years are expected to continue the trajectory, while some sub-industries that provide local retail transportation services, such as Taxi and Limousine Services are expected to shed jobs. The sub-industries that are expected to add the most jobs over the next five (5) years are summarized in the following table.

Projected Change in Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics Industry, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region						
NAICS	Industry	5-Year Projection		Employment Demand		
		# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
493110	General Warehousing and Storage	4,965	10%	993	14%	86%
481111	Scheduled Passenger Air Transportation	1,636	5%	327	8%	92%
492110	Couriers and Express Delivery Services	2,419	11%	484	16%	84%
Total - Transportation & Logistics Industry		14,692	7%	2,938	11%	89%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>						

Construction Industry

The Construction Industry includes a range of sub-industries including Nonresidential Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors; Commercial and Institutional Building Construction; and Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Contractor. In the Atlanta region, this industry represents over 179,000 jobs. The largest sub-industries are summarized in the table below.

Construction Industry Overview, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	2023 Jobs	% of Jobs	Location Quotient	Avg Ann Wages
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	14,242	10%	1.14	\$102,288
238212	Nonresidential Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	13,229	9%	1.18	\$79,119
236118	Residential Remodelers	11,113	8%	0.92	\$60,341
238222	Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	10,764	7%	1.12	\$82,661
238221	Residential Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	8,573	6%	0.71	\$60,106
236115	New Single-Family Housing Construction(except For-Sale Builders	7,394	5%	0.89	\$87,742
237310	Highway, Street and Bridge Construction	6,083	4%	0.71	\$75,045
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Between 2018 and 2023, the Construction Industry added over 20,000 jobs, expanding

employment by 16%. The growth was driven by Commercial and Institutional Building Construction; Nonresidential Electrical Contractors; and Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating and Air-Conditioning Contractors which combined added over 7,300 jobs. The Construction sub-industries that have added the most jobs over the past five (5) years are summarized in the following table.

Historic Change in Construction Industry, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	Employment		5 Year	
		2018	2023	Empl Change	% Change
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	11,882	14,242	2,360	20%
236212	Nonresidential Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	12,398	13,229	830	7%
238118	Residential Remodelers	7,930	11,113	3,183	40%
236222	Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	9,795	10,764	969	10%
Total - Construction Industry		125,983	145,736	19,753	16%
Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3					

Growth in the Construction industry is expected to continue to grow over the next five (5) years. The industry is expected to add over 7,800 jobs, expanding employment by 11%. Growing is primarily driven by the Nonresidential Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors; Commercial Institutional Building Construction and Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning Contractors. Annually, the Construction industry is expected to have over 6,500 job openings. The employment demand will largely be driven by replacement demand, which accounts for 91% of annual employment demand.

Projected Change in Construction Industry, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region						
NAICS	Industry	5-Year Projection		Employment Demand		
		# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	4,965	35%	993	75%	25%
238212	Nonresidential Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	646	5%	129	10%	90%
236118	Residential Remodelers	527	5%	105	10%	90%
238222	Nonresidential Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	464	4%	93	9%	91%
238221	Residential Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	428	5%	86	10%	90%

Total - Construction Industry	6,567	5%	1,313	9%	91%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Advanced Manufacturing

The Advanced Manufacturing industry includes a range of sub-industries including, Commercial Printing, Plastic Product Manufacturing, and Aircraft Manufacturing. In the Atlanta region, this industry represents nearly 209,000 jobs. The largest sub-industries in Advanced Manufacturing are summarized in the following table.

Advanced Manufacturing Industry Overview, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	Jobs 2023	% of Jobs	Location Quotient	Avg Ann Wages
336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	4,886	4%	1.27	\$138,273
323111	Commercial Printing (except Screen and Books)	4,692	4%	1.04	\$128,973
326199	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	3,725	3%	0.74	\$55,630
311812	Commercial Bakeries	3,089	3%	1.33	\$59,849
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Between 2018 and 2023, the Advanced Manufacturing industry added over 18,000 jobs, expanding employment by 2%. This growth was driven by Commercial Bakeries which added 561 jobs. The largest Advanced Manufacturing sub-industries are summarized in the following table.

Historic Change in Advanced Manufacturing Employment, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region					
NAICS	Industry	Employment		5 Year	
		2018	2023	# Change	% Change
336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	5,023	4,886	-137	-3%
323111	Commercial Printing (except Screen and Books)	6,055	4,692	-1,363	-23%
326199	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	4,530	3,725	-805	-18%
311812	Commercial Bakeries	2,528	3,089	561	22%
312111	Soft Drink Manufacturing	2,080	2,531	451	22%
333415	Air-Conditioning and Warm Air Heating Equipment and Commercial and Industrial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing	1,941	2,493	552	28%
Total - Advanced Manufacturing Industry		119,513	122,190	2,677	2%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>					

Significant growth in Advanced Manufacturing is not expected over the next five (5) years.

The industry is expected to add 4,608 jobs. The employment demand will largely be driven by replacement demand, which accounts for 109% of annual employment demand.

Projected Change in Advanced Manufacturing, 6 Digit NAICS - Atlanta Region						
		5- Year Projection		Employment Demand		
NAICS	Industry	# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	227	5%	45	10%	90%
323111	Commercial Printing (except Screen and Books)	-199	-4%	-40	-9%	109%
326199	All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing	179	5%	36	9%	91%
311812	Commercial Bakeries	167	5%	33	7%	93%
312111	Soft Drink Manufacturing	222	9%	44	12%	88%
333415	Air Conditioning and Warm Air Heating Equipment and Commercial and Industrial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing	130	5%	26	10%	90%
311991	Perishable Prepared Food Manufacturing	268	11%	54	15%	85%
Total Advanced Manufacturing Industry		4,608	4%	922	7%	93%
<i>Source: JobsEQ 2023Q3</i>						

Occupational Analysis. In 2023 the metro Atlanta region was home to nearly 2.4 million jobs. Overall, employment has grown steadily over the past ten (10) years, adding over 140,000 jobs despite a dip in employment due to the Great Recession and COVID. The largest industries in 2019 were Retail Trade, Healthcare and Social Assistance, and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services. Combined, these three industries represented over one-third of all employment in the region. While these occupational groups employ the most people, Retail generally offers lower annual wages than the region's overall average.

The next five (5) years for the metro Atlanta region is projected to add almost 192,000 jobs; nearly 90% expected due to replacement needs (retirement, relocation, temporary leave, etc.). Projected employment trends by industry are summarized in the following table.

Projected Change in Employment, 2 Digit NAICS Code – Atlanta Region						
NAICS	Occupation	5- Year Projection		Employment Demand		
		# Change	% Change	Avg. Annual	% New	% Replacement
11-1020	General and Operations Managers	3,632	6%	726	13%	87%
15-1250	Software and Web Developers, Programmers, and Testers	6,496	15%	1299	32%	68%
29-1140	Registered Nurses	2,475	6%	495	17%	83%
41-4010	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	1,431	5%	286	9%	91%
11-9190	Miscellaneous Managers	1,786	6%	357	13%	87%
13-2010	Accountants and Auditors	1,731	6%	346	13%	87%
13-1110	Management Analysts	1,654	8%	331	16%	84%
13-1080	Logisticians and Project Management Specialists	1,721	9%	344	19%	81%
13-1160	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	1,811	10%	362	18%	82%
11-2020	Marketing and Sales Managers	1,063	6%	213	14%	86%
13-2050	Financial Analysts and Advisors	1,194	7%	239	18%	82%
23-1010	Lawyers and Judicial Law Clerks	1,159	7%	232	26%	74%
41-3020	Insurance Sales Agents	1,083	8%	217	16%	84%
15-1210	Computer and Information Analysts	1,549	11%	310	26%	74%
15-1240	Database and Network Administrators and Architects	780	6%	156	16%	84%
11-3030	Financial Managers	1,541	12%	308	24%	76%
Total - All Occupations		8,557	2.56%	1711	4%	96%
Bold designates the largest industries by number of jobs in 2021 Red designates industries that are projected to lose the most jobs Green designates industries that are projected to add the most jobs						

Employer demand for certain occupations can also be assessed by analyzing on-line job postings. In the Atlanta region, over 38,000 job advertisements were posted on-line in search of Registered Nurses. Other top occupations were related to the Unclassified Occupations, Software Developers, Retail Salespersons and Sales Representatives. The top 15 occupations by the number of job advertisements posted in 2023 are presented in the following table.

Top Occupations by Number of Jobs Posted in 2023 – Atlanta Region		
O*NET Code	Occupation	Job Postings
29-1141	Registered Nurses	38,580
99-9999	Unclassified Occupation	27,872
15-1252	Software Developers	24,017
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	21,545
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	18,276
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	16,345
15-1299	Computer Occupations, All Other	12,866
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	12,803
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	12,598
11-9199	Managers, All Other	12,400
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	11,400
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	10,064
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	9,991
11-9051	Food Service Managers	9,664
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	9,346
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	9,090
11-2022	Sales Managers	8,045
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	6,841
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	6,583
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	6,509
Source: Lightcast January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023		

Through an analysis of 2023 job postings data, the specialized skills most requested by employers can be identified. As presented in the following table, Project Management is the largest skill, along with “hard skills” such as Marketing, Auditing, Warehousing, and Accounting. The 15 most frequently requested skills are listed in the table below.

Top Skills by Job Postings in 2023 – Atlanta Region
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Skills	Job Postings
Project Management	51,743
Marketing	45,904
Nursing	41,231
Merchandising	38,678
Auditing	35,132
Warehousing	33,558
Accounting	32,721
Finance	28,215
Restaurant Operation	27,647
Computer Science	27,406
Selling Techniques	24,705
Agile Methodology	22,505
Automation	21,339
Workflow Management	21,075
Data Analysis	20,703
SQL (Programming Language)	20,590
Process Improvement	20,121
Invoicing	18,167
Billing	17,378
Housekeeping	17,272
<i>Source: Labor Insight Jobs</i>	

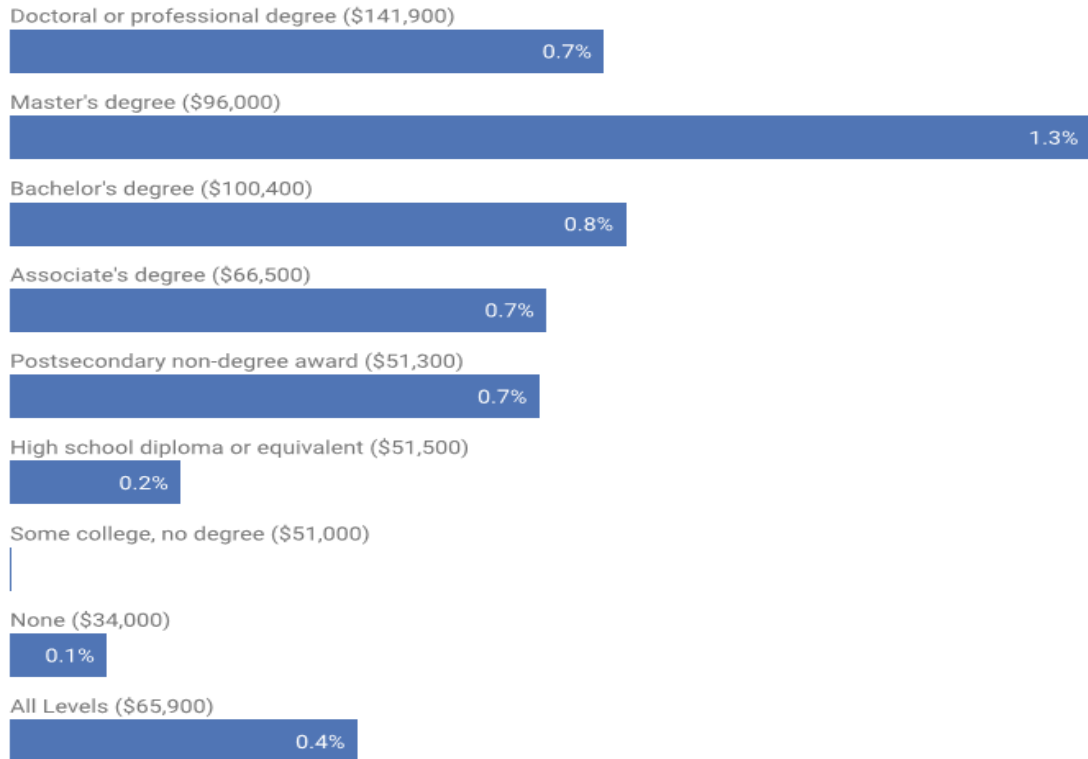
The most requested credentials in the Atlanta region largely reflect the five (5) targeted industries: Healthcare, Information Technology, Transportation and Logistics, Advanced Manufacturing, and Skilled Trades. They include certifications such as Registered Nurse, CDL Class A, and Certified Driver's License. The top 10 certification's requested by employers in the region is summarized in the table below.

Top Certifications by Job Postings in 2023 – Atlanta Region	
Certification	Job Postings
Valid Driver's License	47,520
Registered Nurse (RN)	38,395
Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification	24,659
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification	11,839
Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Certification	10,290
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)	8,065
Commercial Driver's License (CDL)	5,813
Master Of Business Administration (MBA)	5,692
CDL Class A License	4,602
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	4,094
<i>Source: Labor Insight Jobs</i>	

b. Provide an analysis of the knowledge and skills needed to meet the employment needs of the employers in the region, including employment needs in in-demand industry sectors and occupations.

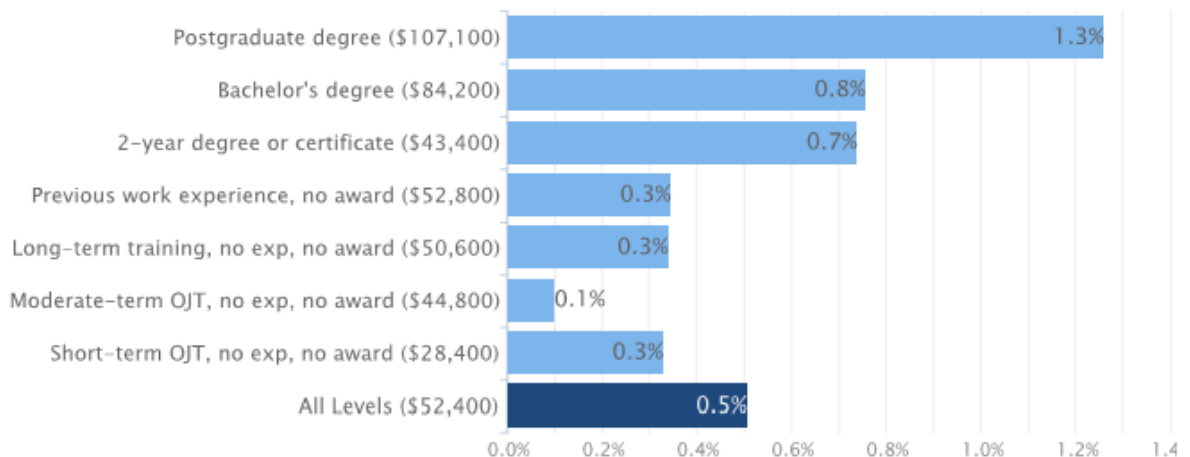
Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in DeKalb County, Georgia is projected to grow 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.7% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.8% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.7% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2023Q3

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for DeKalb County, Georgia



- c. Provide an analysis of the workforce in the region, including current labor force employment, unemployment data, information on labor market trends and the educational and skill levels of the workforce in the region, including individuals with barriers to employment. List all data sources used to gather this information.**

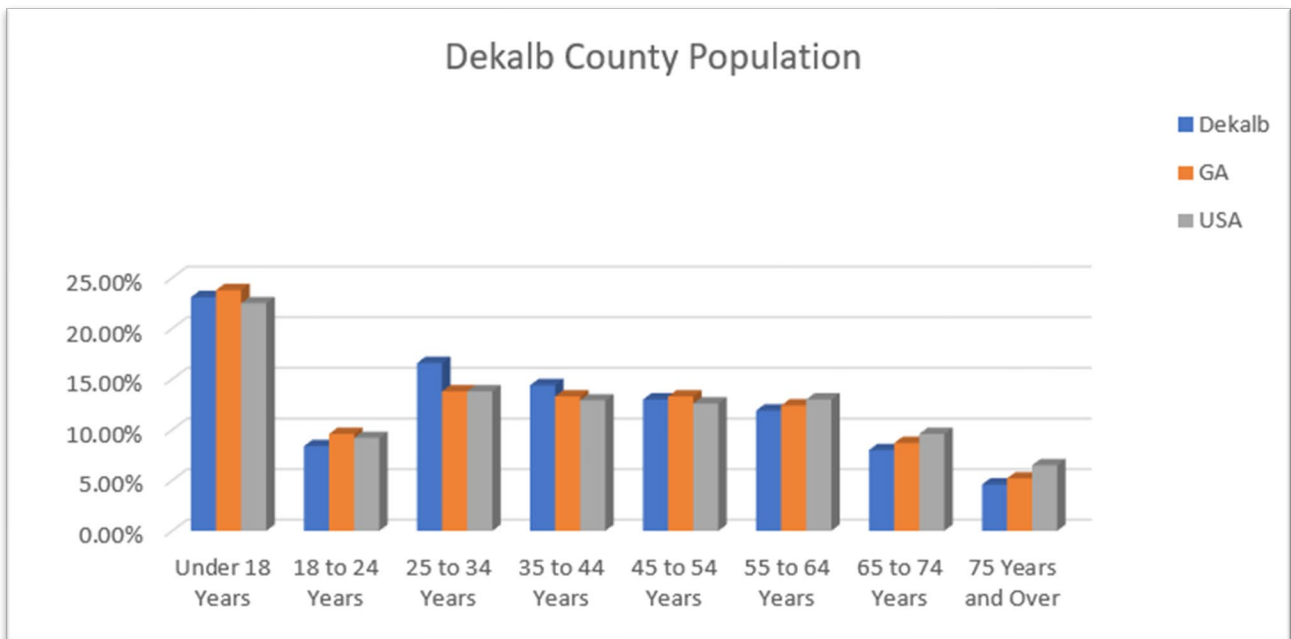
According to the Georgia Department of Labor as of July 2025 Area Profile, DeKalb County had an unemployment rate of 3.7% at the end of June 2025. There were 403,559 people in the labor force, 14,389 unemployed and 389,210 people employed which comprises the unemployment rate during this time period.

The education level of individuals in the labor force varies between age groups. A large percentage of individuals obtain their high diploma at 20.1%. The remaining individuals are spread across some college (16.2%), college graduates (25.8%) and post graduate degrees (20.9%).

- d. Provide an analysis of the workforce development activities (including education and training) in the region, including an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses and capacity of such services to address the identified education and skill needs of the workforce, and the employment needs of employers in the region.**

According to the Georgia Department of Labor Area Profile, in the metro area, there are 13 public institutions, 60 for-profit institutions and 17 non-profits institutions that provide workforce development services. WorkSource DeKalb has engaged with over 60 eligible training providers to provide workforce development services. These services are centered on in-demand occupations selected by the workforce board. The in-demand occupations include but are not limited to Business, Construction, Advanced Technology, Healthcare and Transportation and Logistics.

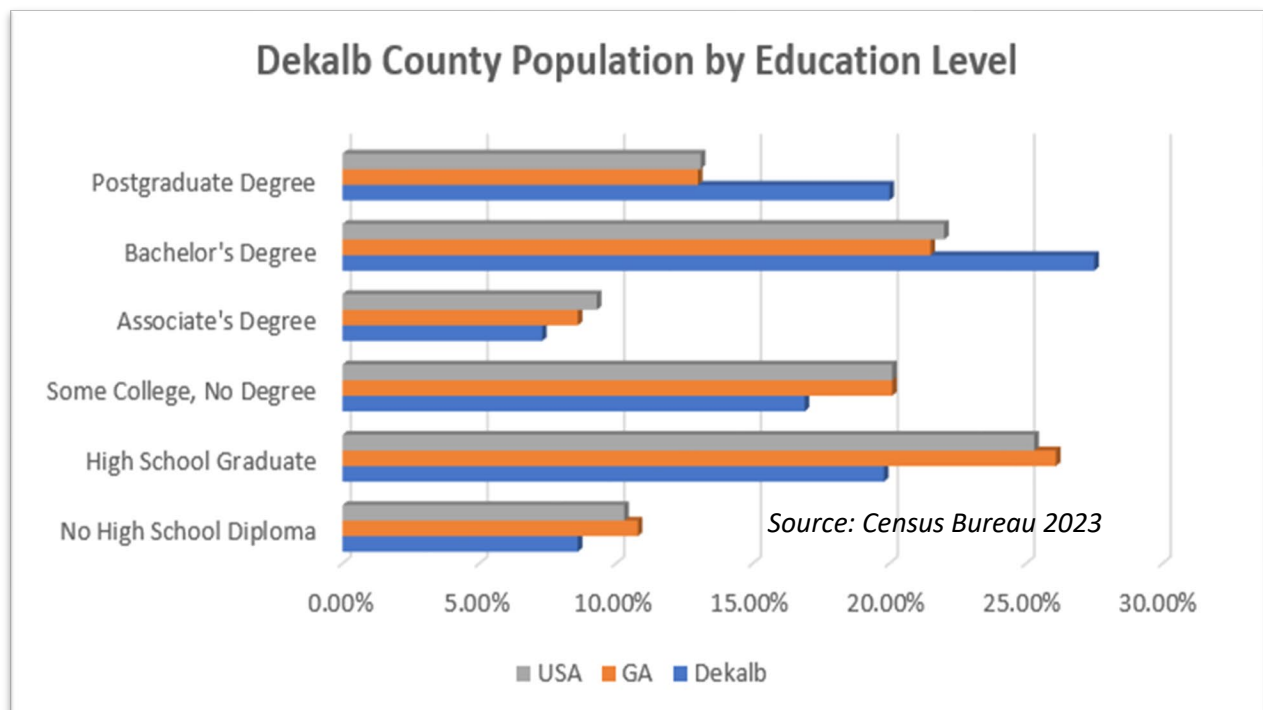
The strength of DeKalb County is it encompasses a higher percentage of working age residents than the State and the US in most categories. This would be a direct indication that there are residents available to fulfill workforce needs of the county. A weakness to this analysis is if these same working age individuals possess the skills and knowledge to be successful in the industries mentioned.



Source: Jobs EQ 2023Q4

Relative to the State of Georgia, a higher portion of DeKalb County and Metro Atlanta Region residents aged 25 to 64 have an advanced degree (bachelor's or higher). In DeKalb County, this group represents approximately 41% of working aged residents.

An overview of the education levels is provided in the table that follows:



Source: Census Bureau 2023

Source: JobsEQ 2023Q4

- e. **Provide a description of the local Board's strategic vision and goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce (including youth and individuals with barriers to employment), and goals relating to the performance accountability measures based on primary indicators of performance, in order to support regional economic growth and economic self-sufficiency.**

The Board has developed a strategic vision and mission, identified its core values, guiding principles, and goals for the local workforce system.

Vision. To be the leader in innovative and employer-driven workforce solutions for the State of Georgia.

Mission. To promote and support a workforce system that creates value and offers employers, individuals, and communities the opportunity to achieve and sustain economic prosperity.

Core Values

- *Customer Focused:* Meeting job seekers where they are by creating a knowledge-based economy through broad public-private partnerships and optimizing technology.
- *Industry Driven:* Talent development investments are based on the specific skill needs of key industry sectors.
- *Accountable and Transparent:* Enhance performance metrics and processes that increase the accountability of our employment and training services and help improve customer service to job seekers and employers alike.

Guiding Principles

- Our customers include job seekers, businesses, and all community partners seeking workforce information and/or services;
- Our customers will define quality service through their feedback;
- Our staff will provide quality services in a timely and positive manner;
- The System will include many connected access points utilizing common methods and shared resources with services tailored to meet the needs of individual communities, including a Mobile Career Lab and web-based electronic registration system;
- To provide services and information to all customers based upon their informed choice and need;
- To be customer friendly, culturally competent, and to embrace the International and Limited English-Speaking Community sufficiently; be flexible to foster immediate and long-term skills development for jobseekers and businesses requiring assistance

Goals

- To provide the delivery of training in a way that is accountable and accessible for job- seekers and businesses;
- To utilize information about quality, occupational trends, business needs and needed skill attainment in our decision-making;
- To advance the Business Services Division to become the focal point for our services and be the primary means of obtaining and providing information from/to the business community.
- To partner with the other Local Workforce Development Boards within the Metro Atlanta area to launch cutting edge initiatives that focus on high-demand sector strategies that assist in the obtainment of education, professional certifications and employment.
- To use the recently conducted comprehensive needs analysis to determine the programs that are in demand and will lead to re-employment within a reasonable time frame in high demand industries such Professional and Business Services, Life Sciences, Tourism, Logistics, Construction and Support Trades, and Advanced Manufacturing, and other emerging industries.

f. Taking into account the analyses described in sections “2. a-e” (above), provide a strategy to coordinate core programs to align resources available to the local area to achieve the strategic vision and goals.

- Engaging local businesses to determine their current and projected workforce needs
- Identifying new or emerging certifications that may be required by businesses or regulatory entities
- Creating appropriate training mechanisms, including work-based learning activities, to fill current and projected job openings
- Identifying career pathways, as well as any training and educational requirements, for long-term employment in the in-demand high-growth sectors
- Recruiting job seekers who are interested in careers in the targeted industries
- Developing a pipeline of qualified workers who possess the education, skills, and certifications required by employers in the in-demand sectors
- Attracting new businesses to the local area by improving the skills and qualifications of the area’s labor force
- Helping existing businesses grow their operations by improving incumbent worker skills and productivity
- Develop regional strategies with the Metro LWDA that are suitable and sustainable.

3. Description of Strategies and Services – Provide a description of the strategies and services that will be used in the local area in order to accomplish the items listed below.

- a. How will the area engage employers in workforce development programs, including small employers and employers in in-demand industry sectors and occupations?**

The WSD Board realizes that employer engagement is an important strategy to help job seekers connect with employment opportunities. The Board has engaged small business employers by participating in small business summits hosted by WSD. This partnership allows small employers and in-demand industry sectors to retain employees, receive resources such as IWT training options, and interacting with jobseekers as direct hires.

Using the information gleaned from these ongoing employer engagement efforts, the Board develops sector-based training programs which prepare qualified workers for careers in the targeted industries. Additionally, working with business partners, the Board creates registered apprenticeship models which provide apprentices, a combination of classroom-based training, and paid training at the worksite leading to permanent employment.

As a part of the regional efforts, the five (5) local Boards are exploring on ways to coordinate options for individual activities to be more efficient and effective. A regional business engagement approach to seamless processes and procedures that lessen the impact to employers is one area the five (5) LWDA are working towards.

- b. How will the area support a local workforce development system that meets the needs of businesses in the local area? Discuss the area's workforce services with businesses and how business and organized labor representatives on the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) contributed to the development of these strategies. Provide a listing of business services available through the area(s) such as employer workshops and assessment and screening of potential employees.**

The full Board, including its business members and labor representatives, have implemented a service delivery strategy for the local area that includes a dedicated Business Services Team. As part of its outreach efforts, this team actively attends and participates in local business groups such as the local chamber of commerce, economic development organizations, and industry associations to cultivate job leads as well as inform potential customers about workforce services. The Business Service Team actively targets employers in the region's high-growth industries to inform and educate potential business and job seeking customers about the variety of workforce services offered through the One- Stop system.

The Business Services Team members are in contact with employers on a daily basis, finding out about their workforce needs, helping them fill job openings, recruiting workers, providing job matching assistance, screening applicants, referring qualified candidates, and identifying training opportunities. At the employer's request, the team may provide pre-interviewing, testing, and/or assessment services to help determine candidates' qualifications for particular job openings.

With respect to workforce planning, the Business Services Team works with businesses to determine their current and future training needs, including the identification of career pathways. As emerging skill requirements are identified, they provide this information to the Board for its consideration in identifying and/or creating new training programs.

Additionally, the Business Services Team is responsible for on-the-job training customized training, incumbent worker training, and other employer-based training opportunities. They negotiate and establish the training curriculum, reimbursable costs, length of training, and other terms to be included on the employer-based training agreement. Additionally, they ensure the training appropriately prepares the customer to function in the identified occupation.

Business Services Team members travel throughout the area, meeting with businesses. Furthermore, they also coordinate their activities with Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) personnel as well as with other local Boards in the Metro Atlanta Region to ensure services are not duplicated.

c. How will the area better coordinate workforce development programs and economic development? Additionally, identify economic development partners and describe the involvement of the economic development community in developing strategies. How will the area strength linkages between the one-stop delivery system and unemployment insurance programs?

The WSD Board has well-established working relationships with its local economic development partners that include DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, Development Authority of DeKalb County (DADC), and Decide DeKalb. The Board relies on these partnerships to help develop workforce strategies and to identify the education and training programs needed to meet the current and emerging workforce needs in the area. The Board and its economic development partners share information, develop forecasts, communicate projections, promote lifelong learning, develop qualified workers, and identify occupational trends.

The WSD Board is an integral part of the economic development efforts to attract new, as well as retain existing businesses in the local area. It provides data on key workforce indicators as well as labor market information. It also promotes the services of the One-Stop system, including recruitment, job matching, screening, and placement services. As needed, it prepares project proposals outlining the specific services it can provide to a new business interested in moving into the area or to an existing one which is expanding.

For example, it is involved with the Aerotropolis Workforce Collective which envisions creating an integrated workforce development plan to better prepare residents for career opportunities in and around the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. As the world's most travelled airport, it is a key economic driver that brings opportunities to an area that is struggling financially. The Aerotropolis Workforce Collective will help ensure that local talent is prepared to fill local jobs.

The Georgia Department of Labor is co-located in the One-Stop Center. Therefore, individuals who are at the facility conducting job search activities can conveniently meet with UI staff; eliminating the need to travel to another location.

Additionally, the WSD Board is interested in working with GDOL to identify those individuals whom are likely to exhaust their UI benefits and attending RESEA orientation by requiring them to utilize the One-Stop partners for job search and

training assistance. They would be provided with an orientation of services and given an initial assessment to determine specific needs. Based on their particular circumstances, they may be referred to additional services and resources, including job search workshops, staff-assisted job search activities, partner programs, and/or training services. This change may help unemployed individuals get back to work before their benefits are exhausted.

4. Description of the One-Stop Delivery System – Provide a description of the one- stop delivery system in the local area that includes the items detailed below.

- a. Provide a description of how the local Board will ensure the continuous improvement of eligible providers of services through the system and ensure that such providers meet the employment needs of local employers, workers and jobseekers.**

To ensure continuous improvement of eligible providers of services through the system and ensure that such providers meet the employment needs of local employers, workers, and job seekers, the Board has established performance goals that each provider is required to meet or exceed. More information on monitoring of service providers is found in the response to **Performance, ETPL, and Use of Technology 3.d. below.**

Additionally, the Board connects employers, training providers, job seekers, and other stakeholders through its sector-focused summits and symposiums. Using the information

gathered from these events, providers can modify their existing programs and/or create new ones as needed to meet business and job seeker needs.

- b. Provide a description of how the local Board will facilitate access to services provided through the one-stop delivery system, including in remote areas, through the use of technology and through other means.**

The Board established a physical One-Stop facility located at 774 Jordan Lane in Decatur. It is on the public transportation route and has ample parking so that customers are able to easily access services. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30AM until 5PM.

Additionally, the Board has a Mobile Career Lab that is stationed at local libraries, upon request, to provide assistance and access to career services throughout the county. The Mobile Career Center will begin engaging youth in areas of high concentration of youth population throughout DeKalb. It has computers with Internet access, along with printer, scanner, and copy services so that customers can conduct job search activities. A fully accessible ADA workstation with movable table and auxiliary equipment is available adjacent to the Wheelchair Lift.

Upon request from Internal DeKalb County Government departments, community partners and private sector, the Mobile Career Lab is utilized within the community for various workforce activities including but not limited to: WIOA resources, employer recruitment activities, and school career exploration activities.

The Board also provides a very good overview of its services, including a calendar of

workshops and events as well as the Mobile Career Lab's schedule, on the website located at <https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/workforce-center/welcome-workforce-development>

- c. Provide a description of how entities within the one-stop delivery system, including one-stop operators and the one-stop partners, will comply with WIOA § 188, if applicable, and applicable provisions of the Americans with programmatic accessibility of facilities, programs and services, technology and materials for individuals with disabilities. This should include the provision of staff training/support and addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities.**

Serving individuals with disabilities is a part of the Board's service delivery design. Its One-Stop and Disability Committee meets bi-monthly to address accessibility and other related issues. Both the physical One-Stop and the Mobile Career Lab are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Board has designated staff members who serve as advocates for customers and act as liaisons with partner agencies, including the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). We assist individuals with disabilities as follows:

- Conducts ongoing training of staff members and partner personnel regarding services to individuals with disabilities.
- Provides outreach to agencies within the local area that offer services to individuals with disabilities.
- Maintain an updated list of resources available within the local area for use by staff and customers in accessing needed services.
- Advocates for individuals with disabilities by advising and informing them about resources available within the WorkSource Georgia locations and throughout the local area and coach them on how to apply for needed resources.
- Implemented a Limited English Proficiency policy, including the use of I-Speak international language card and GDOL's Multilingual Directory to assist customers with language barriers.
- Provides assistive technology items for persons with disabilities, such as adaptive key boards and adjustable work stations.
- Coordinates staff training on assistive technology and equipment to ensure that staff are fully-trained in usage and application.
- Maintain required Federal and State notices and postings.

- d. Provide a comprehensive description of the roles and resource contributions of the one-stop partners.**

The chart that is found on the following page provides a description of the programs/roles and services/contributions of each of the One-Stop partners.

Partner	Programs/Roles	Services/Contributions
WSD	WIOA	Provides WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, and Business Services.
GDOL	Wagner Peyser TAA Veterans Services	Provides a universal public labor exchange services, Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) activities, and employment assistance to Veterans.
Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)	TANF SNAP	Serves as a resource for individuals applying for and receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Supplemental Nutrition Program (SNAP).
Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC)	AEL Carl D. Perkins Act Community College Training Programs	Provides Adult Education and Literacy services, and on-site General Equivalency Diploma (GED) preparation classes. Offers employers innovative, high-value training and business services focused on increasing the professional and technical skills of the area's workforce.
GVRA	Vocational Rehabilitation Act	Assists individuals with disabilities in finding and securing employment. Provides access to adaptive technologies.
AARP	Title V Older Workers	Provides employment assistance, including work experiences, for mature workers.
DeKalb Housing Authority	Housing and Urban Development	Provides housing solutions and deliver programs to help clients achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence.
Job Corps	Job Corps Program	Offers training and placement services for eligible Out-of-School youth.
Decide DeKalb Development Authority	Economic Development	Delivers business recruitment, retention and expansion services.
DeKalb Chamber of Commerce	Business Services	Serves as "the voice of business in DeKalb County".
Urban League of Greater Atlanta	Supportive Services	Provides a variety of wrap around services in conjunction with the One-Stop's workforce services.

MARTA	Transportation	Provides attractive alternatives to the automobile for all residents and visitors to the area.
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- e. **Identify the current One-Stop Operator in the local area(s) and describe how the region/local area is preparing for the competitive process for operator selection. Describe how market research, requests for information and conducting a cost and price analysis are being conducted as part of that preparation.**

IN THE DOOR, LLC, serves as the One-Stop Operator. Moving forward, the Board will carefully consider all options for One-Stop Operator procurement as outlined in the LWDA Customized Guidance provided by the Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development.

The Board may choose to take a regional approach, including working with the other Boards in the region to cooperatively interview potential vendors for market research prior to the release of a competitive RFP and/or sharing a common RFP and evaluation tool.

5. **Awarding Sub-grants and Contracts – Provide a description of the competitive process to be used to award the sub-grants and contracts in the local area for activities carried out under Title I.**

The Board uses a competitive RFP procurement process to award sub-grants and contracts in the local area. Invitations to bid are issued through the DeKalb County Purchasing and Contracting Department and in compliance with the applicable procurement standards set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations. The Board complies with the Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act of 2006 /OCGA 13-10-90 et seq.), which requires public employers; their contractors and subcontractors to verify newly hired employees' work eligibility.

A complete copy of the Procurement Policy for Contracts and Subcontracts is provided in Appendix A.

6. **EEO and Grievance Procedures – Briefly describe local procedures and staffing to address grievances and complaint resolution.**

The Board has processes that comply with federal and state regulation and policies for handling complaints and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) issues. It has established a WIOA Equal Opportunity Officer that is responsible for grievance and complaint resolution.

Lorne C. Green
Director
Equal Opportunity Officer
WorkSource DeKalb
774 Jordan Lane, Building 4
Decatur, Georgia 30033 Email: dvenable@dekalbcountyga.gov
Phone: (404) 687-3806

Upon entry into the process, customers are provided with materials detailing the

processes. Customers are requested to convey concerns in writing to provide clear documentation of the issue. However, a customer's failure to communicate in writing does not prevent him/her from having his/her complaint reviewed.

As a part of its positive customer service strategy, the Board strives to informally resolve most complaints. Typically, it has been the Board's experience that a front-line Manager and/or the One-Stop Manager are able to resolve most customer concerns.

However, if a complaint is unable to be resolved informally, then the customer will be required to file a written report to initiate the formal process. The WIOA Equal Opportunity Officer will research the complaint to determine an appropriate resolution. This process may include interviewing the customer and key personnel, reviewing written materials, and/or holding a hearing.

If the customer remains dissatisfied with the local determination, then he/she may choose to file a request for review by the WFD. Once all formal local and state procedures have been exhausted, a customer may also request to have his/her complaint investigated by the US Department of Labor.

Copies of the Grievance Policy and its related Grievance Form are provided as **Appendices B and C.**

Local Boards and Plan Development

- 1. Local Boards – Provide a description of the local Board which includes the components listed below.**
- a. Describe how local Board members are identified and appointed. Include description of how the nomination process occurs for adult education and labor representatives. (Proposed § 679.320(g))

The Board has adopted a set of By-Laws to define and govern its activities. Upon appointment, each Board Member signs and dates the By-Laws and the Conflict of Interest provision which is submitted to WFD. A copy is also retained by the Board.

The DeKalb Local Workforce Board currently consists of 22 Board members: Twelve (12) Business Representatives, Five (5) Workforce Representatives, Two (2) Education and Training Representatives and Three (3) Government and Economic Development Representatives. See attachment 1 for a complete listing of the Board's membership.

Article IV, Section 1 of the By-Laws relates to the composition and appointment of Board members.

Article IV Board Membership

Section 1 – Board Composition

- (A) BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES** - A majority [51%] of the members of each local Board shall be representatives of business in the local area, who—(i) are owners of businesses, chief executives or operating officers of businesses, or other business executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority; (ii) represent

businesses, including small businesses, or organizations representing businesses described in this clause, that provide employment opportunities that, at a minimum, include high-quality, work-relevant training and development in in-demand industry sectors or occupations in the local area; and (iii) are appointed from among individuals nominated by local business organizations and business trade associations. **MINIMUM number of business representatives: Ten (10).**

(B) WORKFORCE REPRESENTATIVES - (Labor, Community Based Organization and Youth Serving Organizations) - Not less than 20 percent of the members of each local Board shall be representatives of the workforce within the local area, who-(i) shall include representatives of labor organizations(for a local area in which employees are represented by labor organizations), who have been nominated by local labor federations, or (for a local area in which no employees are represented by such organizations) other representatives of employees; (ii) shall include a representative, who shall be a member of a labor organization or a training director, from a joint labor-management apprenticeship program, or if no such joint program exists in the area, such a representative of an apprenticeship program in the area, if such a program exists;(iii) may include representatives of community based organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the employment needs of individuals with barriers to employment, including organizations that serve veterans or that provide or support competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities; and (iv) may include representatives of organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the employment, training, or education needs of eligible youth, including representatives of organizations that serve out-of-school youth. **MINIMUM number of workforce representatives: Four (4).**

(C) EDUCATION AND TRAINING REPRESENTATIVES - Each local Board shall include representatives of entities administering education and training activities in the local area, who— (i) shall include a representative of eligible providers administering adult education and literacy activities under title II; (ii) shall include a representative of institutions of higher education providing Workforce Innovation activities (including community colleges); (iii) may include representatives of local educational agencies, and of community-based organizations with demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the education or training needs of individuals with barriers to employment.

If there are multiple eligible providers serving the local area by administering adult education and literacy activities under Title II, or multiple institutions of higher education serving the local area by providing workforce investment activities, each representative on the local Board described in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (2)(C), respectively, shall be appointed from among individuals nominated by local providers representing such providers or institutions, respectively. Representatives of adult education and higher education institutions shall make recommendation to the Board chair, through this recommendation the CLEO appoints to the Board. In that DeKalb County has one (1) adult education and literacy institution, which is Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC), a required WIOA partner, the president of GPTC makes recommendation to the Board chair and through this recommendation the CLEO appoints to the Board. **MINIMUM number of education and training**

representatives: Two (2).

(D) GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVES - Each local Board shall include representatives of governmental and economic and community development entities serving the local area, who—(i) shall include a representative of economic and community development entities; (ii) shall include an appropriate representative from the State employment service office under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.) serving the local area; (iii) shall include an appropriate representative of the programs carried out under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.), other than section 112 or part C of that title (29 U.S.C. 732, 741), serving the local area; (iv) may include representatives of agencies or entities administering programs serving the local area relating to transportation, housing, and public assistance; and (v) may include representatives of philanthropic organizations serving the local area. **MINIMUM number of government and economic development representatives: Three (3).**

OTHER MEMBERS - Each local Board may include such other individuals or representatives of entities as the Chief Local Elected Official in the local area may determine to be appropriate.

1. Describe the area's new member orientation process for Board members.

The Board created and utilized a very detailed PowerPoint presentation to educate and orient new members about the WIOA. Key provisions include:

- Primary principles of the legislation
- Roles of Board members, elected officials, and fiscal agent/administrative entities
- One-Stop system and partner organizations
- Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth populations
- Overview of services

It describes the focus on regional economies, the elimination of the previously required sequence of services for job seekers, the importance of business services and outreach approaches, the identification and development of sector strategies and career pathways, the emphasis on Out-of-School youth activities, including work-based learning opportunities, and the new primary indicators of performance.

2. Describe how the local Board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out in the local area with regional economic development activities carried out in the region (in which the local area is located or planning region).

The Board plays an active role in the economic development activities carried out in DeKalb County. The Board's staff assists in efforts to attract new businesses to the community, as well as the retention of existing businesses.

More specifically, the Board assists business customers by providing recruiting, candidate assessment, job matching, training, and placement services. The Business Services Unit actively targets employers in the County's key sectors of Professional and

Business Services; Life Sciences; Tourism; Logistics; Construction and Support Trades; and Advanced Manufacturing. The Board is engaged with the Dekalb Chamber and Decide DeKalb to focus on local economic development initiatives. Additionally, the Board actively participates in economic development initiatives and has established partnerships and collaboration with the other four local workforce Boards. Their efforts provide a coordinated and seamless system of services to businesses and industries that are located throughout the Metro Atlanta Workforce Region.

d. Describe how local Board members are kept engaged and informed.

Board members are kept engaged and informed through regularly scheduled Board meetings. Agendas, meeting minutes, and meeting calendars are available on the website:

<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/worksource-dekalb/worksource-dekalb-board>

Typical meetings topics include:

- Possible changes to legislation and/or regulations that may impact service strategies
- Program reports that highlight the types of services being provided and the related outcomes achieved
- Financial reports that identify how monies are being obligated and spent
- Economic reports that demonstrate the current and emerging workforce needs of area employers
- Success stories to show how services have helped businesses and job seekers in the area
- Best practices from other workforce areas to consider replicating in the region

3. Local Board Committees – Provide a description of Board committees and their functions.

Article VI, Sections 1-10 of the By-Laws relate to the Board Committees, their appointments, their composition, and their meeting schedules

Standing Committees

The Board or the Executive Committee may designate standing committees in addition to the standing committees specified, as it deems necessary to effectively conduct the business of the Board. All reports and actions taken by the Standing Committees shall be approved by the Board. The term of any Standing Committee will expire at the conclusion of the year in which it is appointed.

The Committees for the One-Stop and Individuals with Disabilities may combine as long as two (2) representatives with a vested interest in persons with disabilities are active and present at meetings. Standing committees must be chaired by a member of the Local Board, may include other members of the Local Board, and must include other individuals appointed by the Local Board who are not members of the Local Board and who have demonstrated experience and expertise. No Local Board members will serve only on the Youth and or One-Stop/Disabilities subcommittee.

Section 2 - Executive Committee

The Board shall have an Executive Committee which shall be composed of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and the Chairs of Standing Committees.

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the activities of the Board and its other Committees to ensure the satisfactory performance of functions stipulated by the Governor, these bylaws, and all pertinent statutes and regulations. The Executive Committee shall also monitor and guide the administrative management of the Board.

The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Board in the intervals between Board meetings. The Executive Committee may meet as often as it deems necessary. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Board when quorums are not established at a Board meeting. When the Executive Committee acts on behalf of the Board in the absence of a Board quorum, the acts of the Executive Committee shall be the acts of the Board unless rejected by the Board at the next meeting.

Section 3 - Youth Committee

The Board shall have a Youth Committee which shall be composed of members with special interest or expertise in youth policy. The committee will provide information, assist with planning, operational, and other issues relating to the provision of services to youth, which shall include community-based organizations with a demonstrated record of success in serving eligible youth

Section 4 – Performance, Accountability and Finance Committee

The WSDB shall have a Performance and Accountability Committee to provide information and assist with operational and other issues relating to the one-stop delivery system and services to individuals with disabilities, inclusive of issues related to applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. This will include programmatic and physical access to serves and activities of the one stop delivery system. Committee members may be one-stop partner representatives. This committee will also be responsible for reviewing and providing guidance for the organization's financial matters. The Committee will regularly review the organization's revenues and expenditures, ensure that organizational funds are spent appropriately and approve the annual budget and submit it to the full Board for approval.

Section 7 - Ad Hoc Committees

The Chairperson of the Board or the Executive Committee may create Ad Hoc Committees of the Board as deemed necessary to effectively conduct the business of the Board. A simple majority of the Board acting together may create an Ad Hoc Committee for a specified purpose. All reports and actions taken by Ad Hoc Committees shall be approved by the Board. The term of any Ad Hoc Committee shall expire upon the completion of the task for which it was created.

Section 8 - Appointment of Committee Chairpersons

The Chairpersons of Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Board.

Section 9 - Committee Composition

The Chairperson of the Board shall appoint and may remove members of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees.

Section 10 - Committee Meetings

Standing and Ad Hoc Committees shall meet at the direction of the Chairperson of the Board or on the call of the Committee Chairperson.

Plan Development – Provide a description of the process by which the plan was developed including the participation of core partners, providers, Board members and other community entities. Also describe the process used by the local Board to provide a 30-day comment period prior to the submission of the plan including an opportunity for public comment, including comment by representatives of businesses and comment by representatives of labor organizations, representative of education and input into the development of the local plan.

The Board and its core partners, providers, and other community entities participated in a series of workforce planning meetings and regional strategy sessions . Input received from these meetings was included in the Draft Local WIOA Plan that was released for public comment.

The updated Draft was published on the Board’s website at was also directly distributed via email to representatives of businesses, labor organizations, and educational institutions to gather their feedback. <https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/worksource-dekalb/localregional-plan>

As indicated on **Attachment 3** of this document, no public comments were received.

- 4. Plan Development – Provide a description of the process by which the plan was developed to include the participation of core partners, providers, board members, and other community entities. Also describe the process by which the local board provided a 30-day public comment period prior to the submission of the plan to solicit input the development of the plan, including comment by representatives of business representatives of labor organizations and representative of education.**

WSD engaged the WSDB, One-Stop partners, DeKalb Chamber of Chamber and Decide DeKalb in discussion on the business needs of DeKalb County. WSD is in continuous contact with these organizations to understand the businesses and future needs of employers in the county. WSD has posted the plan an awaiting for the public comment period to end.

Service Delivery and Training

- 1. Expanding Service to Eligible Individuals – Provide a description of how the local Board, working with the entities carrying out core programs, will expand access to**

employment, training, education and supportive services for eligible individuals, particularly eligible individuals with barriers to employment. Include how the local Board will facilitate the development of career pathways and co- enrollment, as appropriate, in core programs, and how it will improve access to activities leading to a recognized postsecondary credential, academic or industry- recognized.

As the Board continues with its implementation of WIOA, it plans to expand access to employment, training, education, and supportive services for customers by better coordinating workforce partner services and resources. Basic agreements with partners are in place however, the desired outcome is to increase their participation in the workforce system and also increase their on-site presence at the One-Stop facility. The Board wants solicits partnership understanding as they share the common goal of helping individuals seek, secure and maintain worthwhile jobs in the local community.

The Board will host quarterly or bi-annual meetings with its partners to begin to identify and develop coordinated outreach approaches, processes for cross-training personnel, and methods for referral and co-enrollment of customers. Their objective will focus on improving services for customers, eliminating duplicative partner efforts, and better leveraging funding and other resources in the community. Additionally, the Board plans to begin developing sector-strategy initiatives, including the identification of career pathways in County's targeted industries of Professional and Business Services; Life Sciences; Tourism; Logistics; Construction and Support Trades; and Advanced Manufacturing.

The Board will engage key public and private stakeholders, including One-Stop partners and local business organizations to gather input and provide feedback. The Board will begin to identify and develop career pathways that lead to better jobs. They will identify any skills gaps for the identified careers. They will work with training provider partners to develop appropriate programs and curricula to fill these gaps. Additionally, they will work one-on-one with partners via the Passport Referral Mechanism to share information about common customers. Finally, the Board will continue to host roundtables, discussions, and forums to promote and advocate for a skilled and prepared workforce in the DeKalb area.

2. Description of Service to Adults and Dislocated Workers – Provide a description and assessment of the type and availability of adult and dislocated worker employment and training activities in the local area.

The Board provides career services through its physical One-Stop location and its Mobile Career Lab. Upon entry, an individual is directly referred to the specific service(s) that best meet(s) his/her particular needs. Such referrals may include partner organizations within the WorkSource DeKalb system as well as alternative resources available in the local community.

Adult and Dislocated Worker workforce activities are provided under the broad categories of Basic Career Services, Individualized Career Services, and Training Services. Basic

Career Services are available to any customer, while Individualized Career Services and

Training Services are reserved for individuals who meet WIOA eligibility requirements.²

Basic Career Services

- a. Information about services available through the One-Stop System
- b. Eligibility Determinations
- c. Referral to appropriate services
- d. Initial Skills Assessments
- e. Self-directed or staff-assisted job search
- f. Workshops, including resume writing, interviewing skills, and job search
- g. Information
 - i. Labor market
 - ii. Training provider
 - iii. Supportive service
 - iv. Unemployment
 - v. Financial aid
 - vi. Relocation assistance

Individualized Career Services

- h. Comprehensive assessment
- i. Individual Employment Plan (IEP) defining the customer's specific goals and pathway for achievement
- j. Career counseling and planning
- k. Short-term prevocational services
- l. Internships and work experience
- m. Workforce preparation activities
- n. Financial literacy services
- o. English language programs
- p. Work Experience Occupational skills training using an Individual Training Account (ITA)
- q. On-the-job training (OJT)
- r. Customized training
- s. Job readiness training
- t. Workplace training/co-op programs
- u. Skills upgrading and retraining
- v. Entrepreneurial training
- w. Pre-apprenticeship / Apprenticeship
- x. Transitional jobs
- y. Incumbent worker training

Follow-Up Services

Follow-up services are required for adult and dislocated workers who are placed in unsubsidized

²Complete WIOA eligibility guidelines for Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth customers, including required documentation for personal identification, family size, income, priority of services, training needs, and other related factors is found in the Georgia Workforce Policies and Procedures file located at <http://www.georgia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Workforce-Policies-and-Procedures-6-7-16.pdf>.

employment for 12 months after the first day of employment.

With the implementation of WIOA, the Board eliminated the sequence of services that was previously required under the Workforce Investment Act (core-intensive-training). Therefore, an individual who is determined eligible and suitable for Adult or Dislocated Worker services does not have to participate in any type of career service activity prior to being enrolled into training services.

Regarding training eligibility, the person must meet programmatic eligibility requirements as described above and (1) must be a resident of DeKalb County, (2) must also be identified as unlikely to obtain or retain self-sufficient employment or higher wages, (3) need training to obtain or retain self-sufficient employment or higher wages, and (4) has the skills and qualifications to participate in training (i.e., suitability for training).

Training must be directly linked to an in-demand industry sector or occupation, or a sector that has a high potential for sustained demand or growth. Such training may be delivered via an ITA, training contract, or a combination of both. The Board ensures they will use all alternative funding sources, including Pell and HOPE grants, prior to utilizing WIOA funds.

Description of Rapid Response Services – Provide a description of how the local Board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out in the local area with statewide rapid response activities.

Overview. Rapid Response activities begins with the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) as the State's Rapid Response administrator. This team is responsible for receiving all WARN notifications and distributing them to other partners as necessary. GDOL serves as the convener of these partners and helps coordinate the response activities for all separation events. Additionally, GDOL records the separation details in the on-line case management system so that dislocated workers can be identified by their specific separation event and tracked as they receive workforce services. This allows the State to quickly identify opportunities for employers looking for specific skill sets or occupations by referencing previous events with individuals who have transferable skills.

While GDOL is responsible for convening the appropriate partners for each event, the Board plays a pivotal role in responding quickly and effectively. Regardless of how the notice arrives to the state Rapid Response Team, once it has been entered into the case management system, the notice is forwarded to the local Rapid Response representative and the response activities begin.

The state and local coordinators will contact the employer and schedule a time to explain all available workforce services. The state Rapid Response Coordinator will then help convene partners to meet with the employer and create a plan of services to meet both the employers' and separating employees' needs. Through discussion with the employer, the State may offer strategies which include:

- z. Shared work/short-term compensation
- aa. Assistance with filing Unemployment Compensation
- bb. Assistance with filing Trade petitions, if applicable
- cc. Information on retraining/upskilling opportunities

dd. Job search workshops

ee. Financial literacy and planning workshops

The team of partners work with the employer throughout the process and provide follow up at the conclusion to determine if any further intervention is necessary. Most of these services made available to employer are in response to an immediate separation event. Additional opportunities may be discussed with employers when there is adequate time and opportunity for layoff aversion efforts.

The foundation of layoff aversion strategies are activities which gather information and build partnerships. The State focuses on exploring and sharing labor market information which may predict opportunities for intervention in the workforce system. It then utilizes this information to engage in outreach through multiple partners, such as GDOL's Business Services Unit and OWD, to engage businesses in workforce discussions. These conversations reveal opportunities for the State and the Board to intervene in offering strategies such as incumbent worker training to help businesses upskill workers to become more productive or to learn on new technologies. The State has also had success leveraging upcoming separation events as a talent base to fill job openings with other businesses seeking skilled talent by hosting job fairs and recruitment events in coordination with the employer of separation.

Rapid Response: Responding to Disasters. While growing successful partnerships are at the center of Rapid Response's layoff aversion strategy, these same relationships and connections provide the foundation for a successful response when disaster strikes. Unforeseen and unpredictable, natural disasters can become extraordinarily damaging in the long run if there is no plan in place to respond to the loss of jobs or industry in the affected region. Partnerships and planning are vital to identify how the workforce system can continue to function and provide key resources to the recovery of an affected region.

In the event of natural disasters, the Rapid Response team leverages its flexibility and mobility to assist in recovery efforts. The State prepares for natural disasters by following the direction and warnings of the State's emergency management officials. The primary threats to Georgia include the potential for hurricanes along the coast, tornadoes and flooding throughout the state, and temporary closures due to adverse winter weather in Georgia's mountain region.

The Board has operating plans in place to continue activities in the event of natural disasters, including operational plans to function without the use of technology. State partners have similar contingency plans in place to resume normal services as quickly as possible, such as the filing and processing of unemployment compensation. WFD has established relationships with the Regional US Department of Labor (USDOL) office and serves as the designated signatory to complete and file National Dislocated Worker Grants in the event that additional assistance would be required to serve a significant number of dislocated individuals. Finally, WFD can leverage mobile units from other regions of the State to set up temporary offices in the DeKalb local area to provide improved access and services to individuals whose employment has been impacted by natural disasters.

Rapid Response: Trade Adjustment Assistance. GDOL works closely with WFD when layoffs and business closings occur, including those with a foreign trade impact, for which Trade petitions are submitted to USDOL. GDOL TAA staff promote a seamless array of

activities from the initial phase of a Trade-certified layoff through ongoing services provided to Trade customers. All Trade customers are entitled to Rapid Response and employment services, which are provided consistent with the process for all layoff notifications.

Based on the nature of the layoff, early-intervention services provided by Rapid Response may include discussions with employers about TAA before a petition is filed. Once it is filed, TAA staff notify partners, including the Board and its One-Stop Operator that the petition has been filed. If USDOL certifies the petition, TAA secures an affected worker list from the employer and notifies the workers and partners who provide services to dislocated workers.

TAA coordinates and facilitates worker orientations to inform the workers about the benefits and services they may receive as well as the eligibility requirements associated with each benefit. The worker orientations often include local One-Stop Operator representatives to provide guidance on demand occupations and available training in the local area. GDOL staff assist workers with TAA registration and filing UI claims.

If the number of affected workers is small, or if there are workers who are unable to attend the group orientation, they can visit a nearby DOL Career Center to be served.

All participants are offered Trade Case Management Services and Information to access to the full array of Trade services including:

Training, including remediation, occupational, OJT, customized and apprenticeships:

- Income Support
- Wage supplements
- Health Coverage Tax Credit (to help pay health insurance premiums)
- Job search assistance
- Relocation allowances
- Comprehensive and specialized skills assessments
- Individual service plans to set employment goals and strategies
- Career Counseling
- Labor market and financial aid information
- Other services customized for harder-to-serve dislocated workers

Participants register in the GDOL on-line registration system, which provides them the opportunity to develop a resume and access thousands of job opportunities listed by employers. Trade services are tracked by GDOL and reported quarterly to USDOL.

- 3. Description of Youth Services – Provide a description and assessment of the type and availability of youth workforce development activities in the local area, including activities for youth with disabilities. This description and assessment shall include an identification of successful models of such youth workforce development activities.**

The Board's One-Stop Operator, WSD, delivers the majority of Youth Services using the model approved by the Youth Committee and full WSD Board. Additionally, some youth activities are administered through competitively procured service provider contracts.

WIOA provides year-round services to eligible youth ages 14-24. Overall, the Board allocates at least 20% of funds for work-based elements, such as paid and unpaid work experiences, internships, summer jobs, and permanent employment.

WSD Youth works closely with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to ensure individuals and most specifically youth are served. WSD accepts referrals from the agency as well as coordinates with Warren Technical High School to serve in-school youth with disabilities. Warren Technical School is a unique school that provides students with special needs instruction in career, job readiness and life skills from grades 10-12 and ages 16-22.

In-School Services. With respect to In-School Youth, the Board primarily targets individuals aged 14-21 who are at-risk of dropping out of school. Services include intense tutorial services, peer-to-peer mentorship programs, and close tracking of academic progress. The Board calls upon the public-school systems located within the local area to help provide services to In-School Youth. Typically, program elements are available as part of the regular school services, or as extra-curricular offerings. The Board also uses the existing non-profit and faith-based organizations to provide additional on-going services to Youth and their families. Additionally, the Board may include a year-round work experience component, but such activities will be in conjunction with services occurring during the school year.

Out-of-School Services. The Board allows WSD to enroll Out-of-School Youth aged 16-24 into WIOA Adult programs, (including training using ITAs) concurrently or sequentially with their Youth services, as appropriate for the individual. Under the new WIOA provisions, the Board will ensure that at least 75% of funds are expended on Out-of-School activities.

Additionally, because most Out-of-School Youth require assistance with obtaining a GED, the Board has established a partnership with GPTC to enroll youth into GED. Additionally, the Board also provides job readiness and employability classes at this same location.

Youth Services Model. Under DeKalb's model, Youth are exposed to various career exploration and leadership development activities. They are provided with tools and information to make informed decisions about their future. Examples include presentations on highway/driving safety, email and texting etiquette, dressing for success, and various job readiness activities.

The Youth service provider(s) is(are) responsible for ensuring that their team remains in ongoing communication with enrolled participants, moving them forward in meeting their individual employment and training goals. Additionally, the provider(s) avoid(s) duplication of services by maintaining contact with any other organizations providing concurrent services that are external to the workforce system.

The Board utilizes the WIOA Youth Elements as follows:

a. Tutoring, Study Skills, Instruction, Dropout Prevention/Recovery

The DeKalb County Schools and City of Decatur Schools are the primary providers of tutoring, study skills training, and instruction leading to completion of secondary school, including dropout prevention. These program elements are available for In-School Youth at the appropriate school.

b. Alternative Secondary School Services or Dropout Recovery

Alternative Schools provide a valuable opportunity for youth who have had difficulty or setbacks with traditional educational setting, a structured opportunity to complete their secondary education. The Board uses Destiny Academy of Excellence, Elizabeth Andrews High School and the Gateway Academy, a charter school offering a second chance for youth that have dropped out of high school. WIOA Youth enrolled in these schools, work with provider staff to access services that aid youth in attaining their career goals.

c. Paid and Unpaid Work Experiences that Include Academic and Occupational Education

Through vocational education opportunities available in the local schools and other worksites, youth are able to participate in paid and unpaid work experience, including internships and job shadowing. The Board's Out-of-School Youth program offers internships, "train-for-hire," and employment opportunities. And, as the budget allows, it may provide summer employment opportunities for In-School Youth that link both academic and occupational learning components. It may also provide funding for summer school tuition to eligible youth in-need.

d. Occupational Skills Training

Occupational skill training is available through local public technical schools and colleges, as well as private institutions that offer training in a variety of in-demand industries. Customers may select programs of interest from Georgia's Eligible Providers, easily accessible via the internet. The Board may allow ITA to Out-of-School Youth, by categorizing the youth as adults. The accounts may be used to pay for occupational training and qualified related expenses.

e. Leadership Development

Youth hone their oratory, presentation and leadership skills through weekly one-hour workshops. By developing and maturing these skills, youth are better prepared to meet the demands and challenges of today's world. The project focuses on promoting self-sufficiency through business development skills, providing practical exposure to small business management, building youth leadership capacity, and self-esteem.

f. Supportive Services

All youth programs provide linkages to supportive services, such as community services, transportation assistance, childcare; medical services; job attire; and work tools, including eyeglasses, and protective eye gear.

g. Adult Mentoring

The Board collaborates with established mentoring agencies such as Junior Achievement and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Atlanta to provide training and support to youth mentees.

h. Follow Up Services

The Board requires follow-up services for at least 12 months to all WIOA participants who have completed program requirements.

i. Guidance and Counseling

Coaching, helping, and problem-solving are also provided through relationships with business professionals and other community partners.

j. Transition to Postsecondary Education and Training

WSD staff members help prepare youth for higher education programs and/or occupational skills training. Services include job readiness workshops, career exploration activities, and career counseling.

k. Workforce Preparation Activities for a Specific Occupation or Cluster

WSD develops or procures workshops and other services that prepare youth for careers in the region's in-demand and/or emerging occupations.

l. Financial Literacy Education

Youth services include instruction and education on how to manage a checking account and how to be wise with money, including maintaining a positive credit rating and avoiding the pitfalls of debt.

m. Entrepreneurial Skills Training

The entrepreneurial skills component includes information about the risks and rewards of self-employment or business ownership. WSD calls upon business community leaders and decision makers to assist it in delivering these services.

n. Labor Market and Employment Information, Including Career Exploration

WSD provides data about in-demand and emerging occupations in the region, along with related education and training requirements. This important component enables each youth to truly learn about occupations and industries they may be interested in pursuing.

4. Implementation of Work-Based Learning Initiatives – Provide a description of how the area will implement initiatives such as incumbent worker training programs, on-the-job training programs, customized training programs, industry and sector strategies, career pathways initiatives, utilization of effective business intermediaries and other business services and strategies designed to meet the needs of employers in the corresponding region in support of the business service strategy.

The Board will increase its focus on providing work-based learning opportunities, including incumbent worker training, on-the-job training, customized training, industry and sector strategies, career pathways initiatives, and utilization of effective business intermediaries to meet the needs of the employers in the local area. Strategies that will be considered include:

- Targeting high-growth industries for potential work-based learning opportunities.
- Educating employers, including chambers and industry associations, about how work-based training can enhance their businesses by decreasing turnover and improving productivity.
- Assisting businesses by streamlining work-based learning paperwork requirements.

- Assessing job candidates to determine their eligibility and suitability for work-based learning opportunities.
- Identifying career pathways in the targeted sectors that align with work-based learning activities.

Additionally, the Board will include work-based learning as part of its agendas and topics of discussion during the business forums and summits that it holds throughout each program year. It will use these events as opportunities to gather information from businesses. At the same time, it will educate them about training activities.

WSD will support the Board's efforts by having its Business Services Unit actively promoting work-based learning as key service for local businesses.

5. Provision of ITAs – Provide a description of how training services in WIOA § 134 will be provided through the use of ITAs. If contracts for the training services will be used, describe how the use of such contracts will be coordinated with the use of ITAs and how the local Board will ensure informed customer choice in the selection of training programs regardless of how the training services are to be provided.

The Board may enroll individuals who are determined eligible and suitable for training services into occupational skills training programs utilizing an ITA.³ It has adopted the following policies for the provision of ITAs.

- Training must be in an occupation identified as a growth occupation or within a targeted sector.
 - Training must result in an employment wage sufficient to attain self-sufficiency without the aid of public assistance.
 - Training must be at least 12 hours per week to accommodate existing Unemployment Insurance requirements. Exceptions to this policy may be approved, in writing, on a case-by-case basis.
 - Programs should not exceed 104 weeks (two years). Exceptions to this policy may be approved on a case-by-case basis and requests should include evidence that financial support is available during extended training periods.
 - In general, all training programs must be within a reasonable commute of the WIOA local area that may include out-of-the-area and out-of-state training institutions. Out-of-the-area training programs that are not within commuting distance to the WIOA local area may be approved on a case-by-case basis. All approved training must be located within the contiguous United States.
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- All applicants must apply for the Pell Grant and/or HOPE Scholarship program, if eligible. Depending on the need and availability of WIOA funding, Pell funds may be combined with WIOA funds to cover total expenses.

^{3 5} As discussed in the response to **Service Delivery and Training, 2 above**, the person must meet programmatic eligibility requirements and (1) must be a resident of DeKalb County, (2) must also be identified as unlikely to obtain or retain self-sufficient employment or higher wages, (3) need training to obtain or retain self-sufficient employment or higher wages, and (4) has the skills and qualifications to participate in training (i.e., suitability for training).

- On a case-by-case basis, WIOA funding may be provided for college level and post baccalaureate instruction. The following conditions must be met:
 - The customer must be accepted into a certificate or diploma program, and the course of study must be occupation-specific (i.e., radiologic technician, accounting, teacher certification). No funds shall be provided for general academic programs (i.e. General Studies, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Art, etc.).
 - Total course of study will take no longer than 104 weeks (2 years) to complete and be a certificate or degree program.
 - The customer must demonstrate that he/she has the financial resources to attend long-term training.
- Continuing Education and other similar courses will be approved if the following conditions apply:
 - The customer must have a specific occupational goal
 - The customer must have a work history or educational background that relates to the occupational goal.
 - The customer must present evidence describing how the proposed training will increase his/her employment marketability.
- ITAs may be utilized for expenses related to training, including but not limited to the following: books, tuition and fees, supplies, tools, uniform pants and shoes, certification, licensing, testing fees, background checks, drug testing for entrance into training, medical requirements for training entrance, etc.
- Customers accepted on a provisional basis receive assistance on a case-by-case basis.
- ITAs will not be used for payment of late fees caused by customer error or delay. The customer will be responsible for these fees, as well as other fines or penalties.
- ITA-funded training may be completed in conjunction with alternative training activities, included on-the-job training, customized training, and internships. Such coordination will be clearly identified in the customer's IEP.
- Funding is limited to \$7,000 for a single year with an additional \$3,000 for the second year equalling \$10,000 total per participant for ITAs.
- Customers may choose the training provider that best meets their specific needs from any of the organizations included on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). Data and information for each provider is provided to help the customer make an informed choice.

6. Entrepreneurial Skills Training and Microenterprise Services – Provide a description of how the area will coordinate and promote entrepreneurial skills training and micro enterprise services.

The Board believes entrepreneurial skills training and microenterprise services should provide the basics of starting and operating a small business. Some examples of such skill development include but are not limited to, the following:

- Taking initiative;

- Creatively seeking out and identifying business opportunities;
- Developing budgets and forecasting resource needs;
- Developing a customer-centered environment;
- Understanding various options for acquiring capital and the tradeoffs associated with each option;
- Communicating effectively and marketing oneself and one's ideas.

The Board's approaches to providing entrepreneurial skills training and micro-enterprise services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Entrepreneurship education that provides an introduction to the values and basics of starting and running a business. These programs often guide individuals through the development of a business plan and may also include simulations of business start-up and operation.
- Enterprise development which provides support and services that incubate and help individuals develop their own businesses. Enterprise development programs go beyond entrepreneurship education by helping individuals access small loans or grants that are needed to begin business operation and by providing more individualized attention to assist in the development of viable business ideas.

7. Coordination with Education Programs – Provide a description of how the local Board will coordinate education and workforce development activities carried out in the local area with relevant secondary and postsecondary education programs and activities to coordinate strategies, enhance services and avoid duplication of services.

As outlined in the response to **Service Delivery and Training, 4. above**, the Board's youth services are organized to coordinate strategies, enhance services, and avoid duplicative efforts with the secondary and postsecondary education programs.

WSD takes primary responsibility for providing customers with relevant information and opportunities for career exploration and research. The LWDA staff assist students with gaining entrance into postsecondary education and training opportunities as well as preparing financial aid applications.

The area's secondary and postsecondary education programs provide additional assistance with academic and basic skills achievement, including tutoring services, peer-to-peer mentorships, and GED preparation.

WSD has strong representation from the secondary and post-secondary institution on the youth committee. As well as WSD is active member on the education committee of the DeKalb County chamber, where the focus is education, jobs, and careers for both Youth and their parents. Curriculums are designed from feedback from these interactions. Purpose of this committee is to bring workforce, education and businesses together to plan for today's workforce needs.

Additionally, WSD partners with the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, DeKalb County

School District, and Georgia Piedmont Technical College to provide DeKalb County School District youth and parents the opportunity to improve their employment seeking skills through various soft skill workshops, subsidized work-based learning projects and career pathway development.

More specifically, these projects include, but are not limited to, The Hank Stewart Foundation Career Expo, Go Build Georgia, Go Digitize DeKalb. All of which focus on employment opportunities in high demand careers. As it relates to professional development, WSD hosts various workshops that highlight dress for success, post-secondary transitioning, and budgeting essentials through our Job Readiness Training.

8. Description of Supportive Services – Provide a description of how the local Board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out under this title in the local area with the provision of transportation, including public transportation, and other appropriate supportive services in the local area. Describe the coordination of transportation and other supportive services regionally, if applicable.

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Description of Supportive Services – Provide a description of how the local Board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out under this title in the local area with

the provision of transportation, including public transportation, and other appropriate supportive services in the local area. Describe the coordination of transportation and other supportive services regionally, if applicable. Please include the region/local area Supportive Service Policies.

The Board defines supportive services as those services such as transportation, childcare, dependent care, housing and needs-related payments, that are necessary to enable an individual to participate in WIOA services. Mirroring the State's Policy at <http://www.georgia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Workforce-Policies-and-Dislocated-Worker-and-Youth.pdf>, Section 3.4.4 Supportive Services, the Board limits the total funding for supportive services to no more than 35% per grant funding stream (Adult, At this time, the Metro Atlanta Workforce Region has not adopted a Regional Supportive Services Policy.

- 9. Coordination with Social Service Programs – Provide a description of how the local board will coordinate the social service providers, including SNAP and TANF. The description should include the utilization of both programs as a referral source.**

Coordination with Core Partners

- 1. Description of the Workforce System – Provide a description of the workforce development system in the local area that identifies all relevant programs and how the local Board will work with the entities to carry out both core and other workforce development programs to deliver well aligned services in support of the strategies identified in the state plan. This should include programs of study authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.)**

The DeKalb workforce system goes beyond the career services provided by WSD at the One-Stop and the Mobile Career Lab. It includes a robust network of partners at locations throughout the community that provide a myriad of workforce development services and activities for job seekers and businesses alike.

Through its relationships with educational institutions and training providers, including those operating under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, (e.g., GPTC), it helps individuals gain access to vocational, educational, and occupational training programs so they can obtain skills and certifications they need to secure employment in key sector and emerging occupations.

The system also provides individuals with access to a variety of job search services and assistance, including completion of employment applications, preparation for interviews, and referrals to job openings. At the same time, it provides direct access and referral for supportive services, including assistance with transportation, childcare, clothing, housing, and health services.

The workforce system partners include organizations that specifically target special

populations, such as those who are veterans, low-income, dislocated workers, youth, limited English proficiency, individuals with disabilities, older workers, ex-offenders, and/or migrant and seasonal farmworkers, so that they obtain and retain good jobs.

2. Coordination with Wagner-Peyser – Provide a description of plans and strategies for, and assurances concerning, maximizing coordination of services provided by the state employment service under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.) and services provided in the local area through the one-stop delivery system, to improve service delivery and avoid duplication of services.

Wagner-Peyser services in DeKalb County are delivered through the GDOL. Services include a universal public labor exchange system (i.e., employment services) for all job seekers who are legally entitled to work in the United States as well as for employers who are attempting to fill job openings.

Currently, GDOL Wagner-Peyser services are offered at WSD One-Stop Center. GDOL Wagner-Peyser staff is co-located with WSD and both teams work to ensure all services are coordinated.

3. Coordination with Adult Education – Provide a description of how the local board will coordinate workforce development activities carried out in the local area with the provision of adult education and literacy activities under Title II in the local area, including a description of how the local Board will carry out the review of local applications submitted under Title II, consistent with the subparagraphs (A) and (B)(i) of section 107 (d)(11) and section 232 of WIOA.

The Board's provider of AEL activities is GPTC. Its comprehensive program provides basic skills instruction in reading, math, and language; English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; GED test preparation classes; literacy tutors; and leveled classes in math and writing. It also provides individualized study plans, group instruction, one-on-one instruction, technology/computer usage and distance learning instruction to help students make literacy skills progress. It provides GED preparation classes at Clarkston and South DeKalb locations.

As may be required by WIOA, it is planned that the technical college will provide the Board with an outline of the AEL grant application that includes the following: counties/areas served within the grant, how AEL is providing instruction that supports the chosen sector strategies of the region, the partner activities that prepare individuals for careers, AEL and WIOA co-enrollment processes, evidence of a service strategy between the AEL and the Board, and promotion of AEL services in the One-Stop.

4. Coordination with Vocational Rehabilitation – Provide a description of the cooperative agreement between the local Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation office and the local Board which describes efforts made to enhance the provision of services to individuals with disabilities and to other individuals, cross-train staff, provide technical assistance, share information, cooperate in communicating with employers and other efforts at cooperation, collaboration and coordination.

The Board includes representation from the GVRA. The organization's primary goal is to help people with disabilities to become fully productive members of society by achieving independence and meaningful employment. It works cooperatively and collaboratively to align its employment and training services along with GVRA to enhance and improve work opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

As discussed in the response to **Coordination with Core Partners, 1. above**, the One-Stop location and Mobile Career Lab are both well-equipped so that individuals with disabilities can easily conduct self-service job search activities. Additionally, as needed, the Board refers customers to the GVRA offices when they have more comprehensive or unique needs that are outside of the WIOA area of expertise. GVRA staff members also travel to the One-Stop location to provide on-site assistance to individuals with disabilities.

Moving forward with WIOA implementation, the Board will explore having GVRA personnel co-located at the One-Stop on a more frequent basis, with a long-term goal of staff co-location. The Board will also require cross-training plans to ensure that WSD and GVRA personnel are knowledgeable about the services provided by each organization.

Coordination with SNAP and TANF

Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program and Temporary Aid for Needy Families services are provided in DeKalb County by the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). The WSD Staff (Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth) works with DFCS staff to ensure coordination of referrals between the two agencies and not to duplicate services. The mobile unit also parks at the local DFCS office for visibility and accessibility of our services to their customers. A member of the DFCS serves on the youth sub-committee and provides updates and makes recommendations to services in the county.

Performance, ETPL and Use of Technology

- 1. Description of Performance Measures – Provide a description of the local levels of performance negotiated with the Governor and chief elected official pursuant to WIOA § 116©, to be used to measure the performance of the local area and to be used by the local board for measuring the performance in the local area of the local fiscal agent (where appropriate), eligible providers under subtitle B, and the one-stop delivery system.**

The WSD performance chart is listed below with all negotiated performance measures For PY2024 and PY2025.

2. One Stop System Performance and Assessment – Provide a listing of locally/regionally developed one-stop performance standards and describe the criteria used to develop the performance standards. Describe how the one-stop system and regional service delivery is assessed by the local board.

WSD's One-Stop system will be assessed based on pending negotiated performance levels , the customer satisfaction survey available in the WorkSource Georgia Portal (www.worksourcegeaportal.com) , and employer surveys that will be distributed by the business service representatives. These results will be correlated and evaluated by the Performance and Accountability sub-committee, which provides oversight to the development and implementation of the One-Stop delivery system.

3. ETPL System – Describe the regional Eligible Training Provider System, including the elements listed below.

a. Provide a description of the public notification to prospective providers.

The WorkSource DeKalb Board, along with local workforce Boards for Atlanta Regional

WIOA Performance Measure	PY24 Goal	PY25 Goal
Adult		
Adult Q2 Entered Employment	74%	74.5%
Adult Q4 Entered Employment	70%	70.5%
Adult Median Earnings	\$9,000	\$9,150
Adult Credential Rate	70%	70.5%
Adult Measurable Skills Gain	45%	45.5%
Dislocated Worker		
DW Q2 Entered Employment	78%	81%
DW Q4 Entered Employment	76%	77%
DW Median Earnings	\$10,132	\$10,257
DW Credential Rate	60%	60.5%
DW Measurable Skills Gain	50%	50.5%
Youth		
Youth Q2 Employment or Education	71.4%	71.9%
Youth Q4 Employment or Education	77.5%	78%
Median Earnings	\$4,286	\$4,411
Youth Credential Rate	65.3%	65.8%
Youth Measurable Skills Gain	40%	40.5%

and Fulton County, utilize a regional approach for the ETPL system. The five LWDBs utilize a regional approach for the ETPL system. Under a contractual arrangement, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) solicits bids through a public invitation process for

the five LWDAs by posting a training provider application on its website.

Further, to expand the industry offering among service providers and in response to the local economy, DeKalb County and Fulton County also provide notification of the application process via local media and by issuing a public announcement. Additionally, they distribute letters of notice to any agency that has previously requested to be on their individual Potential Bidders' Lists.

b. Provide a description of how the Board(s) evaluates providers and proposed training programs for initial eligibility, based on (at a minimum) criteria of proven effectiveness, local employer/industry demand, accreditation and customer accessibility.

As discussed in the response to **Performance, ETPL, and Use of Technology, 3.a. above**, the Board participates in a regional approach for the ETPL system. Under the contractual arrangement, ARC is responsible for evaluating training provider applications.

ARC conducts pre-award visits, verifies performance information (including Geographic Solutions reporting), and completes employee interviews as well as participant/ student interviews. Additionally, ARC compares State WIOA performance goals, regional goals, and Metro Atlanta Workforce Region goals against provider performance outcomes. In doing so, ARC may use UI Wage Reports to verify employment, employment dates, and wages. Upon completion of the evaluation, ARC prepares summary reports for the Regional ITA Committee's consideration.

Additionally, as needed, ARC will issue letters to applicants who fail to submit adequate information. If it is determined that fraudulent or faulty information has been submitted, then the application will be denied.

Once a provider is approved, ARC electronically transmits the information to TCSG, OWD for its approval and inclusion on the ETPL.

The Board may choose to use, restrict, or reject an eligible provider based on its local policies.

c. Provide a description of the formal appeals process for aggrieved ITA customers and providers of unapproved training programs.

ITA customers from DeKalb County are required to follow the procedures described the response to **Strategic Elements, Governance, and Structure, 8. above**.

With respect to providers of unapproved training programs, the Board makes every effort (both informally and formally) to resolve the issue at the local level. However, if it remains unresolved, then the provider may make a formal appeal to the State.

As described in Section 4.4 of State Workforce Policies and Procedures located at https://www.tcsge.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SWDB-Approved-PM_08.18.22.pdf, the provider must make the state-level appeal in writing and submit it within 45 days of the local decision. It must be signed by an authorized individual from the training provider and should include:

1. Name of the training provider
2. Address and phone number of the training provider
3. The specific program which was denied (if applicable)
4. A copy of the Local Board's decision
5. An explanation of why an appeal is being filed, and
6. If applicable, documentation of any specific factor (e.g., conflict of interest, nepotism, procedural non-adherence, etc.) which put the aggrieved training provider at a competitive disadvantage.

The State will review the appeal and may choose to hold a hearing to gather additional information as it determines necessary. It will issue its decision based on its findings.

d. Provide a description of the ongoing process used to update the data on the eligible providers list (exclusive of the state-conducted continued eligibility process).

As part of its regional approach, the Board has established performance goals that each provider is required to meet or exceed. If the goals are met, the training provider agreement continues without interruption. However, if the required levels are not met, then the provider is given a 30 -day pending "Hold" status. During this time, the provider must develop a corrective action plan and submit verifiable information regarding performance. Additionally, a "Limited Slot" requirement is instituted for new providers not meeting performance requirements. Under this restriction, a limited number of job seekers are allowed to attend the provider's training; however, once the number has been reached, no other job seekers may attend training until a review of performance is conducted. Depending on the results of the review, the limited slots requirement may be lifted, or it may continue until performance requirements are met.

If the provider's status has changed, i.e., moved location, termination of business, etc., ARC immediately notifies the other local workforce Boards and the TCSG, OWD.

Procedures for review and approval of additional programs and price changes for approved training providers are provided in the Training Provider Agreement. Submittal of program changes/additional programs/price increases are reviewed by the Regional ITA Committee. If approved, they are then transmitted to the TCSG, OWD.

The Board also conducts its own local monitoring that is independent of ARC performance activities. It includes a review of ITA-enrolled customers. Performance outcomes as compared against local requirements are also tracked.

e. Provide a description of any regional policies or agreements for ITAs or training providers.

As outlined in the response to **Service Delivery and Training, 6. above**, the Board has established local policies and procedures related to ITAs. Due to the cooperative efforts of the local Boards in the Metro Atlanta Workforce Region, most of the local ITA policies within the region are the same for tuition and support.

Additionally, to further promote regionalization and provide economies of scale, the LWDA's contract with ARC to carry out the eligible training provider processes related to application and evaluation, reference and performance checks, and monitoring and reporting services. The Board's One-Stop Operator, WSD, shares in the monitoring process.

Each quarter the Boards meet to discuss regional issues. The topic of ITAs and training provider statuses and outcomes is included as a standing agenda item. It is at this time that ARC provides each workforce Board with a reporting of performance for all metro area-training providers in addition to providers with local workforce Board enrollments. Additionally, policies regarding ITAs are discussed by the group. Potential modifications are presented to the respective Boards for adoption.

- f. Provide a description of the process to track and manage all ITA activity. The Board uses Geographic Solutions to track programmatic and fiscal activities related to ITAs. Specifically, the system tracks customer enrollments and performance outcomes as well as financial obligations and cost expenditures. Geographic Solutions reports are run each month to determine enrollment levels and performance results.**

Additionally, independent of Geographic Solutions tracking, the Board also monitors ITA fiscal activity using detailed ITA expense tracking spreadsheets that are organized by case managers. The finance team reconciles these spreadsheets against actual expenditures monthly. At the same time, ITA case management activity is tracked and managed through the case management system.

- g. Provide a description of local Board policy on use of statewide eligible training provider list (including financial and duration limits, out-of-area training, service to out-of-area customers, etc.)**

The Board has several policies related to the use of eligible training providers:

Financial and Duration Limits. Training services may not exceed two years for a training, certificate, or degree program. The total cost shall not exceed \$10,000 for a training program with a duration of one year or less, or \$7,000 for more than one year.

Out-of-Area Customers. Priority for WIOA training and support services is given to residents of DeKalb County. Additionally, services are provided to dislocated workers whose place of employment is/was within DeKalb County. The LWDA's coordinate to discuss individuals that are seeking services out-of-area to ensure duplication has not occurred and funds are not available in their immediate area of residence.

Providers Not On ETPL. On a limited, case-by-case basis, the Board may approve funding for an individual to participate in a training program that is offered by a provider that is not on the ETPL.

Demand Occupations – Customers are encouraged to choose training programs that lead to employment in a demand occupation.

- h. Provide a description of how registered apprenticeship programs are added to**

the ETPL.

Registered apprenticeship applications are coordinated by the TCSG, OWD. Once the Board receives notification from the OWD regarding a newly approved registered apprenticeship program, it adds this information into the ETPL.

4. Implementation of Technology – Provide a description of the technology used to enhance customer (participant and business) experience and any additional data analytics used to enhance planning and measure outcomes beyond mandated performance measures.

The Board uses the following technologies to enhance customer experience:

- **Social Media-** The Board views social media as an important way to connect with its existing customers, as well as to outreach to potential new customers. Using tools such as LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook, its Operator, WSD, keeps job seekers and businesses up-to-date about workshops, hiring events, success stories, “hot jobs”, and labor market trends. Posts are designed to keep customers informed and engaged; encouraging them to participate and succeed.
- **Text Messaging.** WSD actively uses text messaging to connect with customers. For example, it is used to inform groups about scheduled activities such as training, workshops, job clubs, and hiring events. It has found texting is an especially effective
- **Mobile Career Lab.** The Board’s state-of-the art Mobile Career Lab enables its career services to be taken directly to customers. Businesses may use it for recruiting, pre-employment screening, interviewing and training. Individuals can access various job search/career development activities, such as on-line job search, resume and cover letter development, on-line tutorials and individual assessments, and exploration of training eligibility and options.

The Mobile Career Lab operates under generator driven power or through a shore line connection with Internet connection via satellite. Printer, scanner, and copy services are available, and DVD and Blu-Ray units are attached to a large screen Plasma TV that is used for training as well as the smaller TV that is located within the private interview area.

- **On-line Access.** Moving forward, the Board will explore using an on-line orientation that will detail the eligibility requirements and documentation needed for WIOA enrollment so that job seekers are better prepared for their first on-site visit. Additionally, to improve services to businesses, the Board will specifically include the contact information for the Business Services Unit so that employers can easily connect with them.

State Initiatives and Vision

1. State Branding – Provide a description for how the area will adopt and utilize the

state brand.

Currently, The Board is utilizing the "WorkSource" brand unveiled by the OWD which will be known locally as WorkSource DeKalb.

WSD has updated its resources, such as the Board website, facility signage, Mobile Career Lab, letterhead, brochures, pamphlets, and other related materials to ensure clarity and consistency in messaging and outreach. Additionally, the Board's Operator, IN THE DOOR, LLC., will educate and train One-Stop Center personnel on the proper usage of the new brand, including when answering the telephone and emailing customers.

2. Priority of Service – Describe how the region will identify and administer the state's priority of service policy. Identify if the region will add target populations in addition to ones specified by state and federal policy.

The Board complies with the State's Policy for priority of services that is found on the website at https://www.tcsq.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SWDB-Approved-PM_08.18.22.pdf, under Section 3.2.5.

Priority for Adult services will be given to recipients of public assistance or other low-income individuals, with added priority for individuals who are basic skills deficient. Priority applies regardless of funding levels. Individualized career services and training services will be given on a priority basis, regardless of funding levels, as follows:

A. Public assistance recipients and other low-income adults;⁶ and Individuals who are basic skills deficient.⁷

Veterans under WIOA § 3 (63)(A) receive priority of service as described in the Jobs for Veterans Act (38 U.S.C. 4215 (2)). Veterans and eligible spouses of veterans who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for adult programs must receive the highest priority for services. Priority must be provided in the following order:

1. Veterans and eligible spouses who are also recipients of public assistance, are low income individuals, or who are basic skills deficient. Military earnings are not to be included as income for veterans and transitioning service members.
2. Individuals who are not veterans or eligible spouses who meet WIOA priority criteria.
3. Veterans and eligible spouses who are not included in WIOA's priority groups.
4. Individuals outside the groups given priority under WIOA.

While Veterans receive priority through WIOA services, the Board and its service providers will refer and direct Veterans with Significant Barriers to Employment to the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program to ensure the most effect provision of services.

Additionally, in the spirit of reflecting the special needs of DeKalb County, the Board has determined that there is a sizeable group of individuals in the local area that are commonly referred to as the "working poor". They earn just enough to be above the federal poverty

guidelines and public assistance requirements; however, they do not earn enough to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

As a result, the Board has established an additional service priority to any WIOA-eligible Adult who is a member of a family with an income level between 100% - 200% of the lower living standard income level (LLSIL) for the past six months.

Receives, or in the past six months has received, or is a member of a family that is receiving, or in the past six months has received, assistance through SNAP, TANF, or the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, or state or local income-based public assistance:

- A. Receives an income or is a member of a family receiving an income that, in relation to family size, is not in excess of the current combined U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) 70 percent Lower Living Standard Income Level;
- B. Is a homeless individual, as defined in § 41403 (6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, or a homeless child or youth as defined in § 725 (2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
- C. Receives or is eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch under the NSLA
- D. Is a foster youth, on behalf of whom state or local government payments are made; or
- E. Is an individual with a disability whose own income meets WIOA's income requirements, even if the individual's family income does not meet the income requirements of the income eligibility criteria for payments under any federal, state, or local public assistance program?
- F. An individual who is unable to compute or solve problems, read, write, or speak English at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family, or in society satisfies the basic skills deficient requirement for WIOA adult services. In assessing basic skills, Boards must use assessment instruments that are valid and appropriate for the target population and must provide reasonable accommodation in the assessment process, if necessary, for individuals with disabilities.

3. Alignment with State Goals – Describe how the area/region will align with each of the goals listed in the State Unified Plan.

- a. Utilize sector partnerships to inform and guide strategic workforce development strategies and enhance partnership coordination.
- b. Further develop regional integration to ensure streamlined services to both businesses and individuals.
- c. Utilize the workforce system to increase statewide prosperity for rural and urban communities.
- d. Align the workforce system with the education systems at all levels.
- e. Alleviate a tightened labor market by increasing the participation of strategic populations in the workforce system.

WSD has partnered with the other local five (5) workforce boards to develop a comprehensive regional approach to the plans outlined in the State Unified Plan. On the local level, WSD will utilize the regional strategy to implement its local plan as well. The goal is for all five (5) local areas to utilize the same service strategy to assist common customers throughout the region. WSD will adjust any local needs based on customer needs.

Attachment 1: Current WorkSource Dekalb Board (21)

Member Name	Title	Entity	Category
Alan Still	Training Director	Georgia Sheet Metal JATC	Workforce/Labor
Barry Booth	Senior Project Manager	CERM	Business Representative
Erica-Antoinette Slaton – Vice Chair	Sr. IT Project Manager	Erica Antoinette Management	Business Representatives
Frankie Atwater - Chair	President & CEO	DeKalb Chamber of Commerce	Business Representatives/ Government and Economic Development Representatives
Hank Stewart	President	Hank Stewart Foundation	Business Representative
Helen Yohannes	Vice-President of Prevention & Stability Initiatives	Chris 180	Workforce/Labor
Jeffrey Taylor	CEO	Medcura	Business Representatives
Kristi Cox	Director of Enterprise Accounts	ManPower	Business Representative
Mark Connally	Career Center Manager	Georgia Department of Labor	Government/ Economic Development
Naushad Alli	Dirctor, Support Services	RICOH USA. Inc.	Business Representatives
Denise Townsend	Regional Director	United Way of Greater Atlanta	Other
Rondah Thomas	Area Manager	Georgia Power	Business Representative
Doryiane Gunter	Career Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) Director	Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Dekalb County Schools	Education and Training Representatives
MacKenzie Manyard	Founder, CEO	Your Elevated Visions	Business Representative
Monica Cucalon	VP Of Economic Empowerment	Latin American Association	Business Representative
Derrick Westry	Professional High School Counselor	Georgia Cyber Academy	Education and Training Representatives
Chassidy Parks	Program Coordinator	Georgia Piedmont Technical College	Education and Training Representatives
Sergio Galeano	Advisor – Center for Workforce and Economic Development	Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta	Government/Economic Development
Katrina Young	Business Retention and Expansion Manager	Decide DeKalb Developmnt Authority	Government/Economic Development
Theo Anderson	Assistant Vice President	Mercer University	Education and Training Representatives

Attachment 2: Local Negotiated Performance

WIOA Performance Measure	PY24 Goal	PY25 Goal
Adult		
Adult Q2 Entered Employment	74%	74.5%
Adult Q4 Entered Employment	70%	70.5%
Adult Median Earnings	\$9,000	\$9,150
Adult Credential Rate	70%	70.5%
Adult Measurable Skills Gain	45%	45.5%
Dislocated Worker		
DW Q2 Entered Employment	78%	81%
DW Q4 Entered Employment	76%	77%
DW Median Earnings	\$10,132	\$10,257
DW Credential Rate	60%	60.5%
DW Measurable Skills Gain	50%	50.5%
Youth		
Youth Q2 Employment or Education	71.4%	71.9%
Youth Q4 Employment or Education	77.5%	78%
Median Earnings	\$4,286	\$4,411
Youth Credential Rate	65.3%	65.8%
Youth Measurable Skills Gain	40%	40.5%

Attachment 3: Comment Form

Comment 1
Originating Entity:
Comment:

Comment 2
Originating Entity:
Comment:

Comment 3
Originating Entity:
Comment:

Comment 4
Originating Entity:
Comment:

Attachment 4: Signature Page

The undersigned hereby agree to adhere to all applicable federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and policies in performing any duty associated with the funds made available to under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Name: Lorne C. Green

Title: Local Workforce Area Director

Entity Representing: WORKSOURCE DEKALB

Signature: *Lorne C. Green*

Name: Lorraine Cochran-Johnson

Title: Chief Local Elected Official

Entity Representing: DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Signature: *Lorraine Cochran-Johnson*

Name: Frankie Atwater

Title: Local Workforce Development Board

Entity Representing: WORKSOURCE DEKALB

Signature: *Frankie Atwater*

Appendix A: Procurement of Contracts and Subcontracts

PROCUREMENT OF CONTRACTS AND SUB-CONTRACTS

Overview

SECTION I AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING DEPARTMENT AND THE DIRECTOR

The Purchasing and Contracting Department shall serve DeKalb County Government by obtaining required commodities and services in accordance with Georgia law and this Policy. The Director shall, except as otherwise specified herein, be responsible for the administration of all transactions governed by the provisions of this Policy and shall serve as the principal procurement officer of the County. Unless otherwise provided, any duties and powers of the Director may be delegated by him/her to subordinate purchasing staff members and other employees. The Director shall be subject to the authority and supervision of the Executive Assistant/Chief Operating Officer and/or the Chief Executive Officer.

SECTION II PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

The Director is authorized to establish, implement and enforce written operational procedures relating to acquisitions and dispositions subject to this Policy. Such procedures shall, to the extent consistent with applicable law and this Policy, be based upon generally accepted public purchasing principles and practices and shall become effective upon approval by the Chief Executive Officer. Additionally, these procedures may be revised, as necessary, through the same process used for their initial approval.

SECTION III DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPROPER PURCHASING

The Governing Authority may disclaim responsibility and liability for any purchase, expenditure, or agreement for expenditures arising from procurements made in its name, or in the name of any governmental body under its authority, by an unauthorized person or any person acting outside this Policy or the authorization or delegation as provided in this Policy. The expense of any such disclaimed transaction may become the personal liability of the individual who acted improperly.

SECTION IV PURCHASING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

A Purchasing Advisory Committee shall be established and comprised of members (selected from user departments by the County's Chief

Executive Officer, Executive Assistant/Chief Operating Officer, Director of Finance and the Director) who shall serve for two-year staggered terms. The Committee shall meet periodically (at least annually) to review purchasing procedures and make recommendations for changes; resolve problems regarding the purchasing process; place Persons on the Ineligible Source List, make recommendations for standardization of commodities, scheduled buying, qualified products list, annual contracts, vendor performance and other problems or requirements related to purchasing.

The Director shall make recommendations regarding the placement of a Person on the Ineligible Source List. Prior to the inclusion of a supplier, vendor or contractor on the Ineligible Source List, an informal hearing shall be held before the PAC on the matter. After presentation by both the Director and the supplier, vendor or contractor subject to placement on the Ineligible Source List (or their respective delegates/representatives), the PAC shall deliver its decision in the matter within 30 days of its hearing on the matter. Such decision shall include the basis therefore and, if appropriate, the length of time, not to exceed three years, that such supplier, vendor, or contractors shall remain on the Ineligible Source List.

Procurement Methods

SECTION I GENERAL

A. A supplier's contract compliance history with DeKalb County and other contractual parties is a valid element in the decision to award a solicitation.

B. DeKalb County stipulates that the furtherance of its strategic goals for job creation, stability and growth in the tax base, business retention, and other fiscal and economic development objectives may be considered during the procurement process. The Director is authorized to establish procurement initiatives consistent with the County's strategic economic development objectives. These procurement practices shall be applied consistently and equitably and shall have a direct relationship to the County's goals.

SECTION II SUMMARY OF METHODS OF PROCUREMENT

In most cases, this Policy recognizes six methods of procurement and the conditions under which each method shall be used. The Director shall make the determination of the type of procurement.

For competitive procurements, a selection committee is established, and a DeKalb Board member serves on the selection committee. The Selection Committee makes recommendation for the selected procured vendor and/or service provider based on the evaluation criteria. This recommendation is presented to the Board for vote.

A. COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING

In most cases the competitive sealed bid is the preferred method of procurement in the public sector and should be used whenever possible as it allows qualified, responsive bidders to compete on the basis of price. Generally, the following conditions must be met:

1. Clear and adequate specifications.
2. Two or more responsible bidders are willing to participate in the process.
3. Cost of materials, supplies, equipment, services or project is in excess of \$50,000.00, and/or
4. Revenue is in excess of \$100,000.00.

Unless otherwise provided herein, formal sealed bids must be obtained for any item or service which is expected to cost or generate revenue in excess of \$50,000.00 or \$100,000.00 respectively, unless the competitive sealed bid process is either not applicable or is determined by the Director not to be in the best interest of the County as outlined herein. Should the DeKalb County Organizational Act be hereafter amended to increase this bidding threshold so shall the amount in this Policy be changed.

B. COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL

When use of the competitive sealed bid is either not practical or not advantageous to the County, a contract may be entered into by use of the competitive sealed proposal. Use of the proposal is dependent upon such factors as:

1. Whether quality, availability or capability is overriding in relation to price in procurement of technical supplies or technical or professional services.
2. Whether the initial installation needs to be evaluated together with subsequent maintenance and service capabilities and what priorities should be given these requirements in the County's best interest

3. Whether a fixed price or cost type contract is more advantageous.
4. Whether the marketplace will respond better to a solicitation permitting not only a range of alternate proposals, but evaluation and discussion of them before making the award.
5. Cost of equipment, services or project is in excess of \$50,000.00, and/or
6. Revenue is in excess of \$100,000.00.

Unless otherwise provided herein, formal sealed proposals must be obtained for any item or service which is expected to cost or generate revenue in excess of \$50,000.00 or \$100,000 respectively and for which the competitive sealed bid process is either not applicable or is determined by the Director not to be in the best interest of the County as outlined herein. Should the DeKalb County Organizational Act be hereafter amended to increase this bidding threshold so shall the amount in this Policy be changed.

C. INFORMAL PURCHASE

The Director is authorized to establish the methods and procedures to be used in handling informal purchases not exceeding \$50,000.00. Unless otherwise specifically provided, such purchases will be obtained competitively through telephone quotations or informal written solicitations. In most instances, this may be accomplished through a Purchase Order and does not require a formal, written agreement; however, the Director may, in his discretion, require that certain purchases be accomplished through formal, written agreement.

D. SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE

A sole source procurement may be used when only one supplier is able to fill requirements for the intended use. Sole source may be used for compatibility with equipment for repair purposes, or for compatibility with existing systems. Standardization may require a sole source procurement, depending upon the intended use.

Standardization, which is either established as a result of past procurement(s) or by approval of the Purchasing Advisory Committee, can be a satisfactory justification for a sole source.

All sole source purchases must be authorized by the Director. Prior to authorization, written justification must be signed by the Department Director and submitted to Purchasing and Contracting for evaluation.

E. EMERGENCY PURCHASE

An emergency exists when there is an imminent threat to the health, welfare or safety of people or property, or when there is a material loss of essential government services. The competitive process should be followed whenever possible in an emergency as long as the ability to respond to the emergency is not seriously impaired. The Director decides if a competitive process is required in any given emergency.

All emergency purchases must be authorized by the Director. Emergency purchases of \$100,000.00 or greater must be ratified by official action of the Governing Authority at a future Board of Commissioners' meeting and the reason for the emergency must be contained in the minutes of the meeting.

F. COOPERATIVE PURCHASE

The County may participate in a cooperative purchase for the acquisition of commodities, supplies and services through an authorized contract of any other governmental entity or agency whether federal, state or local, provided a competitive procurement process has been followed and the cooperative purchase is determined by the Director to be in the best interest of the County.

G. STATE OF GEORGIA AND FEDERAL CONTRACTS

Purchases exceeding \$50,000.00 may be made without formal sealed solicitations provided the supplier at the time of purchase has an existing contract or schedule with the State of Georgia or federal government and such purchase is determined by the Director to be in the best interest of the County. The purchase must be made pursuant to the price, terms, and conditions of said contract and the County must receive all the benefits of such contract.

Appendix B: Grievance Form

WorkSource DeKalb Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grievance/Complaint Procedures and Equal Opportunity Policy

General Policy

Whenever any person, organization or agency believes that the Governor, or the Governor's designee, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant recipient, or other sub recipients (e.g. service providers, contractors) has engaged in conduct that violates the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and has a concern regarding this violation, the problem should first be discussed informally between those involved before a grievance or complaint is filed.

The grievance or complaint process is intended to allow for a resolution of the violation at the most local level. Applicants and participants for WIOA related services through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I will be treated fairly by WorkSource DeKalb (WSD) and Georgia Department of Economic Development, Workforce Division or any of its sub recipients for funds entrusted to the agency and no applicant, participant, employee, service provider or training provider will be intimidated, threatened, coerced or discriminated against because they have made a complaint, testified, assisted or participated in any manner of an investigation, proceeding or hearing.

Equal Opportunity Complaint Policy

WorkSource DeKalb adheres to the following United States Law: **“Equal Opportunity Is the Law”**.

It is against the law for this recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate on the following bases: Against any individual in the United States, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sex stereotyping, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, or political affiliation or belief, or, against any beneficiary of, applicant to, or participant in programs financially assisted under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, on the basis of the individual's citizenship status or participation in any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity.

The recipient (WorkSource DeKalb) must not discriminate in any of the following areas:

- Deciding who will be admitted, or have access, to any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity;
- Providing opportunities in, or treating any person with regard to, such a program or activity; or
- Making employment decisions in the administration of, or in connection with, such a program or activity.

Recipients of federal financial assistance must take reasonable steps to ensure that communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. This means that, upon request and at no cost to the individual, recipients are required to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities.

COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION: *What To Do If You Believe You Have Experienced Discrimination*

If you think that you have been subjected to discrimination under a WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity, you may file a complaint within 180 days from the date of the alleged violation with either:

- **LOCAL:** The recipient's Equal Opportunity Officer: Lorne C. Green Director/EO Officer, WorkSource DeKalb, 774 Jordan Lane, Building #4, Decatur, GA 30033, Office: 404-371-6354, Mobile: 470-877-6782, Email: lcgreen@dekalbcountyga.gov Use the attached complaint form or download from www.worksourcedekalb.org, or
- **STATE:** State EO Officer: Britney Singer, TCSG OWD Compliance Director Address: 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta GA 30345-4304 Phone: 404-679-1371, Email: wioacompliance@tcsgeu
 -
- **FEDERAL:** The Director, Civil Rights Center (CRC), U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N-4123, Washington, DC 20210 or electronically as directed on the CRC Web site at www.dol.gov/crc. Furthermore, a complainant may file directly with the Director, Civil Rights Center at the address listed above. Or at the website: <http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/crc/external-enforc-complaints.htm>.
- If you file your complaint with the recipient, you must wait either until the recipient issues a written notice of Final Action, or until 90 days have passed (whichever is sooner), before filing with the Civil Rights Center.
- If the recipient does not give you a written Notice of Final Action within 90 days of the day on which you filed your complaint, you may file a complaint with CRC before receiving that Notice. However, you must file your CRC complaint within 30 days of the 90 day deadline (in other words, within 120 days after the day on which you filed your complaint with the recipient).
- If the recipient does give you a written Notice of Final Action on your complaint, but you are dissatisfied with the decision or resolution, you may file a complaint with CRC. You must file your CRC complaint within 30 days of the date on which you received the Notice of Final Action.
- **Definition:** A complaint is an allegation of discrimination on the grounds a person, or any specific class of individuals, has been or is being discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, political affiliation or belief, citizenship status, or participation in any WIOA Title I financially assisted program or activity as prohibited by WIOA or part 29 CFR 38.69. An allegation of retaliation, intimidation or reprisal for taking action or participating in any action to secure rights protected under WIOA will be processed as a complaint.

Who May File: Any person requesting aid, benefits, services or training through the WorkSource DeKalb; eligible applicants and/or registrants; participants; employees, applicants for employment; service providers, eligible training providers (as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), and staff with the workforce system that believes he/she has been or is being subjected to discrimination prohibited under the Nondiscrimination and Equal

Opportunity Provisions 29 CFR Part 38 and Section 188 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

WorkSource DeKalb is prohibited from discriminating against a person, or any specific class of individuals, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, political affiliation or belief, citizenship status, or participation in any WIOA Title I financially assisted program or activity as prohibited by WIOA or part 29 CFR 38.69 in admission or access to, opportunity or treatment in, or employment in the administration of or in connection with, any WIOA funded program or activity. If you think that you have been subjected to discrimination under a WIOA funded program or activity, you may file a complaint within 180 days from the date of the alleged violation.

Complaint Processing Procedure

An initial written notice to the complainant will be provided within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the complaint. The notice will include the following information pursuant to part 29 CFR 38.72:

- Acknowledgement of complaint received including date received; notice that the complainant has the right to be represented in the complaint process; notice of rights contained in §38.35; and notice that the complainant has the right to request and receive, at no cost, auxiliary aids and services, language assistance services, and that this notice will be translated into the non-English languages as required in §§38.4(h) and (i), 38.34, and 38.36.
- A written statement of issue(s) which includes a list of the issues raised in the complaint; for each issue, a statement of whether or not the issue is accepted for investigation or rejected and the reasons for each rejection after performing a period of fact finding.
- Notice that the complainant may resolve the issue Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) any time after the complaint has been filed, but before a Notice of Final Action has been issued.
- If the complaint does not fall within the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act jurisdiction for processing complaints alleging discrimination under Section 188 or Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination provisions at 29 CFR Part 38.74, the complainant will be notified in writing within five (5) business days of making such determination. The notification shall include the basis of the determination as well as a statement of the complainant's right to file with the Civil Rights Center (CRC) within thirty (30) days of the determination.
- Upon determination that the complaint has merit and is within the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act jurisdiction and period of fact finding or investigation of the circumstances underlying the complaint.

Complaint Processing Time Frame

A complaint will be processed and Notice of Final Action issued within ninety (90) days of receipt of the complaint pursuant to 29 CFR 38.72. Complainant may elect to file his or her equal opportunity complaint with the TCSG OWD's address and information is as follows: Attention: TCSG OWD Compliance Director, 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta, GA 30345-4304, 404-679-1371, WIOAcompliance@tcsq.edu; use form at: <https://tcsq.edu/worksource/resources-for-practitioners/eo-and-grievance-procedure-information/>

If WorkSource DeKalb has not provided complainant with a written decision within ninety (90) days of the filing of the complaint, complainant need not wait for a decision to be issued. Complainant may file a complaint with TCSG OWD or CRC within thirty (30) days of the expiration of the 90 day period. If complainant is dissatisfied with WorkSource DeKalb's resolution of his or her equal opportunity complaint, complainant may file a complaint with TCSG OWD. Such complaint must be filed within thirty (30) days of the date you received notice of WorkSource DeKalb's proposed resolution.

OR

Complaints may be initially filed or appealed to the Director, Civil Rights Center (CRC) U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N4123, Washington, DC 20210 or electronically as directed on the CRC website at www.dol.gov/crc within thirty (30) days of complainant's receipt of either WorkSource DeKalb Notice of Final Action or TCSG OWD Notice of Final Action. In other words, within one hundred eighty (180) days Complainant may file his or her appeal.

Resolution Process

Alternative Dispute Resolution: Complainant must be given a choice as to the manner in which they have their complaint resolved. After an investigation is conducted by the Equal Opportunity Officer, ADR may be chosen by the complainant to resolve the issues, as long as a Notice of Final Action has not been issued. Mediation is recommended ADR and will be conducted by an impartial mediator. Complainant must notify the Equal Opportunity Officer prior to receiving the Notice of Final Action if ADR is selected to resolve the dispute. WorkSource DeKalb will provide an impartial mediator and will provide interested parties information regarding the arrangements (date, time, and location).

Time Frame: The period for attempting to resolve the complaint through mediation will be thirty (30) days from the date the complainant chooses mediation; but must be performed within ninety (90) days of the initial filing date.

Successful Mediation: Upon completion of successful mediation, the complainant and respondent will both sign a conciliation agreement attesting that the complaint has been resolved. A copy of the conciliation agreement will be provided to Georgia Department of Economic Development, Workforce Division within ten (10) days of the date the conciliation agreement was signed.

Unsuccessful Mediation: In the event mediation was not successful, WorkSource DeKalb shall proceed with issuing a Notice of Final Action within the ninety (90) day limit.

Complainant Responsibility: The complainant may amend the complaint at any point prior to the beginning of mediation or the issuance of the Notice of Final Action. The complainant may withdraw the complaint at any time by written notification.

Breach of Agreement: Any party to any agreement reached under ADR may file a complaint in the event the agreement is breached State EO Officer: Britney Singer, TCSG OWD Compliance Director Address: 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta GA 30345-4304 Phone: 404-679-1371, Email: wioacompliance@tcsq.edu or Director, Civil Rights Center (CRC) U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-4123, Washington, DC 20210.

The non-breaching party may file a complaint within thirty (30) days of the date that party learns of the alleged breach (29 CFR 38.72).

GENERAL, NON-DISCRIMINATORY COMPLAINTS

Definition: General Complaint – A Complaint involving a general, non-discriminatory WIOA violation. A grievance is a complaint about customer service, working conditions, wages, work assignment, etc., arising in connection with WIOA Title I funded programs operated by WIOA recipients including service providers, eligible training providers, one-stop partners and other contractors. A grievance is a more formalized complaint.

Any person applying for or receiving services through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I (WIOA) paid for by WorkSource DeKalb will be treated fairly. WorkSource DeKalb will make every effort to resolve all general, non-discriminatory complaints informally between those involved before a grievance is filed. Grievances may be filed in accordance with the written procedures established by WorkSource DeKalb. If you believe a violation of Title I of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act or regulations of the program has occurred, you have the right to file a grievance.

Filing a General Grievance/Complaint (violations of the act or regulations not alleging discrimination)

Who May File: Any person, including WIOA program participants, applicants, staff, employers, board members or any other interested parties who believes they have received unfair treatment in a WIOA Title I funded program.

Any person may attempt to resolve all issues of unfair treatment by working with the appropriate manager and/or supervisor and staff member, service provider, or one-stop partner involved informally prior to a written grievance being filed. All complaints as described in the previous definition may be filed within one hundred eighty (180) days after the act in question by first completing and submitting the General Grievance Form to:

Robert Gordon

One-Stop Operator

WorkSource DeKalb, 774 Jordan Lane, Building 4, Decatur, GA 30033

Email: rgordon1@dekalbcountyga.gov, Phone: (404) 371-3721

Grievance Processing Procedure

A complaint may be filed by completion and submission of the Complaint Form located at www.worksourcedekalb.org. WorkSource DeKalb will issue a written resolution within sixty (60) days of the date the complaint was filed. Pursuant to Section 181 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, WorkSource DeKalb shall provide the grievant with an opportunity for a hearing within sixty (60) days of the complaint's filing, if requested in writing by the grievant. In the event a hearing is not requested, WorkSource DeKalb shall issue a decision as to whether provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act were violated. In the event the grievant is dissatisfied with WorkSource DeKalb's decision, he or she may appeal the decision to the State EO Officer: Britney Singer, TCSG OWD Compliance Director Address: 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta GA 30345-4304 Phone: 404-679-1371, Email: wioacompliance@tcsq.edu within sixty (60) days of the date of the decision. If such an appeal

is made, the TCSG-OWD shall issue a final determination within sixty (60) days of the receipt of the appeal.

In the event WorkSource DeKalb does issue a written resolution within the sixty (60) days of the complaint's filing as required, the grievant has the automatic right to file his or her complaint with State EO Officer: Britney Singer, TCSG OWD Compliance Director Address: 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta GA 30345-4304 Phone: 404-679-1371 Email: wioacompliance@tcsd.edu

Hearing Process

Respond in writing acknowledging the request to the grievant; and (2) notify the grievant and respondent of a hearing date. The notice shall include, but not limited to: (1) date of issuance; (2) name of grievant; (3) name of respondent against whom the complaint has been filed; (4) a statement reiterating that both parties may be represented by legal counsel at the hearing;

(5) the date, time, place of the hearing, and the name of the hearing officer; (6) a statement of the alleged violation(s) of WIOA ; (7) copy of any policies and procedures for the hearing or identification of where such policies may be found; and (8) name, address, and telephone number of the contact person issuing the notice.

The hearing shall be conducted in compliance with federal regulations. The hearing shall have, at a minimum, the following components: (1) an impartial hearing officer selected by WorkSource DeKalb; (2) an opportunity for both the grievant and respondent to present an opening statement, witnesses, and evidence; (3) an opportunity for each party to cross examine the other party's witnesses; and (4) a record of the hearing which WorkSource DeKalb shall create and maintain.

The hearing officer, considering the evidence presented by the grievant and respondent, shall issue a written decision which shall serve as WorkSource DeKalb's official resolution of the complaint. The decision shall include the following information: (1) the date, time, and place of hearing; (2) a recitation of the issues alleged in the complaint; (3) a summary of any evidence and witnesses presented by the grievant and respondent; (4) an analysis of the issues as related to the facts; and (5) a decision addressing each issue alleged in the complaint.

No applicant, participant, employee, service provider or training provider will be intimidated, threatened, coerced or discriminated against because they have made a complaint, testified, assisted or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding or hearing.

Appeal Process

An appeal may be requested by contacting State EO Officer: Britney Singer, TCSG OWD Compliance Director Address: 1800 Century Place N.E., Suite 150, Atlanta GA 30345-4304 Phone: 404-679-1371, Email: wioacompliance@tcsd.edu

COMPLAINTS OF FRAUD, ABUSE or OTHER ALLEGED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

In case of suspected fraud, abuse or other alleged criminal activity, you should direct your

concerns to the Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Labor at 1-866-435-7644 or email at inspector.general@oig.ga.gov. There is no charge for this call. Complaint Form: <http://oig.georgia.gov/file-Complaint>. This document can be translated using www.microsofttranslator.com

Additionally, as part of DeKalb County Government's commitment to "Zero Tolerance" of unethical conduct in the workplace, DeKalb has implemented an EthicsPoint Hotline that is hosted/managed by a third-party provider. This service provides anonymous and confidential reporting of unethical conduct in DeKalb County. Access to the system is available 24/7 via telephone at 855-224-8216 or online at www.co.dekalb.ethicspoint.com. Each report will automatically generate a unique 10-digit Report Key to allow the tracking status of reports submitted. All reports are sent electronically to the County's Internal Auditor for review and investigation. For more information, see DeKalb County Ethics Policy.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST PUBLIC SCHOOLS

If the complaint is not resolved informally and it involves public schools of the State of Georgia, the grievance procedure will comply with WIOA and OCGA 202-1160.

I certify that I have received a copy of this policy and procedures and understand the information provided within this document.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Appendix B: Grievance Contacts

If the complainant is dissatisfied with the resolution of his/her complaint by WorkSource DeKalb or WFD, the complainant may file a new complaint with CRC within thirty (30) days of the date on which the complainant receives the Notice of Final Action. If the State or WorkSource DeKalb fails to issue the Notice within ninety (90) days of the date on which the complaint was filed, the complainant may file a new complaint with CRC within thirty (30) days of the expiration of the ninety (90) day period (in other words, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date on which the original complaint was filed). Additional information regarding grievance and complaint filing, hearing process and timeline are outlined in WorkSource DeKalb's Policy Manual that can be requested from WorkSource DeKalb's EEO Officer listed below.

Contact Local Area – **WorkSource DeKalb** for inquiry to resolution of alleged grievance or complaint

Lorne C. Green
Director/EO Officer
WorkSource DeKalb
774 Jordan Lane, Building 4
Decatur, Georgia 30033
Email: lcgreen@dekalbcountyga.gov
Office: 404-371-6354:

Contact **State WIOA EO Officer**

Title I Equal Opportunity Officer
Technical College System of Georgia Office of Workforce Development
1800 Century Place NE
Atlanta, GA 30345
404-679-1370 (voice)
wioacompliance@tcsg.edu

If resolution is not sufficient, contact
Civil Rights Center (CRC),
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave. NW Room – N4123
DC 20210

And Regional Administrator
USDOL/Employment and Training Administration
Atlanta Federal Center, Room 6M112
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

A complainant may file directly with the Director, Civil Rights Center at the address listed above. Or at the website: <http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/crc/external-enforcement-complaints.htm>.

In case of suspected fraud, abuse or other alleged criminal activity, you should direct your concerns to the Georgia Office of Inspector General, 1-866-435-7644 or email at inspector.general@oig.ga.gov. There is no charge for this call. Complaint Form: <http://oig.georgia.gov/file-Complaint>. This document can be translated using www.microsofttranslator.com

Additionally, as part of DeKalb County Government's commitment to a "Zero Tolerance" of unethical conduct in the workplace, DeKalb has implemented an Ethics Point Hotline that is hosted/managed by a third-party provider. This service provides anonymous and confidential reporting of unethical conduct in DeKalb County. Access to the system is available 24/7 via telephone at 855-224-8216 or online at <http://www.dekalbcountyethics.org/file-a-complaint/>

Each report will automatically generate a unique 10-digit Report Key to allow the tracking status of reports submitted. All reports are sent electronically to the County's Internal Auditor for review and investigation. For more information, see DeKalb County Ethics Policy.

I certify that I have received a copy of this policy and procedures.

Applicant Name (signature): _____

Date _____

Revised March 30, 2020

WSD is an EEO/M/F/D/V employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons with hearing impairments may call 1-800-255-0135 or 711 (TTY) for assistance. WSD is fully funded by the U. S. Department of Labor and is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network.

Appendix C: Complaint Instructions Form

WorkSource DeKalb

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grievance and Complaint Information Form

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill out Questions 1-5 for a general complaint. If you feel you have been discriminated against, please complete Questions 6-11. This form should be completed and submitted within one hundred twenty (120) days of the date of the alleged discriminatory act. Once you have completed the appropriate questions, please sign and date at the end of this form.

Pursuant to section 181 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), WorkSource DeKalb (WSD) shall provide the complainant with an opportunity for a hearing within sixty (60) days of the complainant's filing, if expressly requested in writing by the complainant, or in the event is not requested, WSD shall issue a decision as to whether provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) were violated. In the event the complainant is dissatisfied with WSD's decision, he or she may appeal WSD's decision to the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Workforce Division.

WorkSource DeKalb (WSD)

ATTN: Lorne C Green Director/EO Officer

774 Jordan Lane, Building 4, Decatur, GA

30033

Office: 404-371-6354

Submissions should be sent to: lcgreen@dekalbcountyga.gov

Complainant Information:

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Home Number _____

Address _____ Work Number _____

City, State, and Zip _____ Email _____

Are you a WSD Employee? Yes No (circle one)

1) Respondent Information (Agency, Employee, or Employer you are making the complaint against):

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2) What is the most convenient time and place for us to contact you about this complaint? _____

3) Briefly describe, as clearly as possible, your complaint. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Also, attach any written materials pertaining to your complaint.

a. Please explain the basis of the complaint. _____

b.

Who was involved? Include witnesses, fellow employees, supervisors, or other. Provide names, addresses and telephone numbers if known. _____

c. Please list the location and date. _____

WSD is an EEO/M/F/D/V employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons with hearing impairments may call 1-800-255-0135 or 711 (TTY) for assistance. WSD is fully funded by the U. S. Department of Labor and is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network.

4) Were you offered services? (If applicable) Yes, No NA (circle one)

This is all that is required for a general complaint, please sign and date at the end of this form.

FOR GRIEVANCES/ DISCRIMINATION ONLY – COMPLETE 6 THROUGH 11

Pursuant to 29 C.F.R 38.72, a discriminatory complaint must be filed within one hundred twenty (120) days of the alleged discriminatory act. If (1) the complainant is dissatisfied with WSD's decision, may file a complainant with the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG), Office of Workforce Development (OWD). Upon receiving a notice of final action from TCSG, OWL, should the complainant still not satisfied, may file a complaint with the Director of the United States Department of Labor's Civil Rights Center within thirty (30) days of receiving the Written Notice of Final Action. (38.79 and 38.80)

5) Do you feel you have been discriminated against? YesNo (Circle one)

6) On what date (s) did the alleged discriminatory action occur? _____

7) Check all grounds of discrimination that apply and specify the characteristic

8)

☐ Race	☐ Color
☐ Religion	☐ National Origin
☐ Sex [] Male [] Female	☐ Age
☐ Disability	☐ Sexual Harassment
☐ Citizenship	☐ Political Affiliation
☐ Reprisal/Retaliation	☐ Other

9) Explain briefly how you were treated differently. Attach any written material pertaining to your case.

10) Do you have an attorney or other representative for this complaint? Yes No (Circle one) If yes, please provide name, address and phone:
Attorney Name _____ Address _____ Telephone _____

11) If you have filed a case or complaint with any other government agency or non-federal entity, please list below: Agency _____ Date Filed _____
Case or Docket Number _____ Date of Trial or Hearing _____
Location of agency or court _____ Name of Investigator _____
Status of Case _____ Comments _____

I certify that the information furnished above is true and accurately stated to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the disclosure of this information to enforcement agencies for the proper investigation of my complaint. I understand that my identity will be kept confidential to the maximum extent possible consistent with applicable law and a fair determination of my complaint.

Complainant Signature _____ Date _____

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Revised March 30, 2020

WSD is an EEO/M/F/D/V employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons with hearing impairments may call 1-800-255-0135 or 711 (TTY) for assistance. WSD is fully funded by the U. S. Department of Labor and is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network.