

Q& A RELATED TO THE NEW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Q: Is April 17th the cut-off date for submitting an Application to serve on the WDB?

A: No, applications will be taken on an on-going basis until the Board of Supervisors has appointed a complete Workforce Development Board that is consistent with the Federal Law (June 30, 2016). HOWEVER, the CEO/Board of Supervisors hope to be able to make the initial appointments to the WDB in May 2015, with these initial appointments being seated on July 1, 2015—the day after the WIB sunsets. And, for those initial appointments the CEO anticipates choosing from those applications received by April 17, 2015.

Q: Is the role/duties of the WDB the same as the current WIB?

A: Absolutely not. The WIOA and Federal DOL have gone to great lengths to communicate that expectations of the WDB is significantly different than the WIB. Among, but not limited to, the differences is the WDB is expected to bring about System Alignment. There are numerous programs and systems that are engaged in, one way or another, with aspects of Workforce Development—and the intent of Federal Legislation is to have those programs/systems collaborate (together and with the private sector) to the maximum degree possible.

Q: In “Characteristics of a Leader” large employers are mentioned. Does that mean small employers and consultants are not eligible?

A: While small business & consultants are not ineligible, the intent of the Federal Legislation and DOL (and State) is that CEO/Executives from large local, growth industries be represented on the WDB. The reasoning behind this is that the WDB should be made up of individuals who can bring about the system change and realignment that the Legislation envisions. But, again, small business and consultants are not prohibited from serving on the WDB.

Q: How many Members will make up the WDB?

A: There is no Federally-set number for the WDB. However, the intent is to have smaller boards. The current Santa Barbara WIB is comprised of 28 Members (and we're missing a couple of Members). The intent of the County is to have less than 28 Members...but again, there is no hard and fast number.