

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT:

On July 22, 2014, President Obama signed the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)*, new bipartisan legislation that makes a number of improvements to the outdated *Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA)* and modernizes the Federal workforce system. *WIOA* codifies several key improvements to the public/private workforce system:

- Emphasizes a regional approach and alignment with economic development goals.
- Requires more sophisticated implementation of sector strategies.
- Enhances accountability of workforce programs.
- Reconstitutes Workforce Boards and repurposes the Boards as conveners, community leaders, and venture capitalists.
- Provides an opportunity to redesign public systems with the customer in the center.

ROLE OF THE BOARD:

The inaugural Workforce Development Board will provide strategic direction and oversight for the following activities:

- Competitively select qualified providers to deliver employment-related services to adults, dislocated workers, and youth.
- Partner with local elected officials to develop a Local Plan to be submitted to the Governor of California.
- Initiate workforce research and labor market analysis to inform the efforts of the Board and other entities across the region.
- Convene regional stakeholders and forge collaborations among business, government, educational institutions, training providers, and community groups to further the goals of the workforce system.
- Lead efforts to engage with a diverse range of employers to better align the skills of the workforce with employers' needs and to support employer utilization of the workforce development system.
- Develop career pathways within the local area by aligning employment, training, education, and supportive services, particularly for individuals with barriers to employment.
- Create a strategic vision and set measurable goals for a demand-driven workforce development system.
- Ensure the appropriate use, management, and investment of funds to maximize performance outcomes.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A LEADER:

Successful Board members will meet the following profile and exhibit these characteristics:

- Chief Executive or key decision maker within an organization that provides high quality employment opportunities in Santa Barbara County and the greater Central Coast Region.
- Represent one of the County's six designated industry sectors: Agriculture, Tourism, & Wineries; Building & Design; Business Support Services; Energy & Environment; Healthcare; and Technology & Innovation.
- Demonstrate an interest in workforce development and the economic vitality of Santa Barbara County.
- Able to work collaboratively and to compromise in order to achieve a common goal.
- Federally mandated Board members include representatives from: Labor Organizations; Joint Labor-Management Apprenticeship Programs; Adult Education and Literacy; Institutions of Higher Education including Community Colleges; Economic and Community Development Entities; California Employment Development Department; Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

TIME COMMITMENT:

- Initial term appointments will be for a two year period.
- All members of the Workforce Development Board will be required to attend and participate in a series of trainings that will cover: the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, workforce strategies, and the workforce landscape in the Central Coast Region.
- Subsequently, the Workforce Development Board will meet quarterly (four times per year). Working committees will meet more frequently and report out to the Board at these meetings. Average time commitment for members is three (3) hours per quarter. Participation at these meetings will be required.