

The WorkSource system

The Employment Security Department (ESD) is part of the WorkSource system, a partnership of business, labor, state and local government agencies, colleges, and non-profits coming together in a coordinated, federally funded one-stop service delivery system. They operate under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 to address the employment and training needs of job seekers, workers and businesses in Washington.

People can access some services online at <u>WorkSourceWA.com</u>. A network of 49 comprehensive, affiliate and connection sites operating under the WorkSource brand deliver virtual and in-person services in communities throughout the state.

Regional partners

Washington has <u>12 regional workforce</u> <u>development areas</u> (WDAs). Each has a Local Workforce Development Board and at least one comprehensive WorkSource One-Stop Career Center where staff from system partners, including ESD, provide critical services to their communities.

ESD's role

In addition to local direct-service staff, ESD provides state-level administrative and operational support, as well as oversight for numerous WorkSource system programs. This makes ESD a major partner in the system. Still, it is only one partner among many.

ESD-affiliated WorkSource programs

Washington's WorkSource system is a large and robust network of federally funded employment, education and training programs. Those administered by ESD include programs offering labor exchange, which connects <u>businesses that have job openings</u> with <u>job seekers</u>; and programs that serve targeted populations of employers and workers.

- Dislocated workers
- <u>Agricultural employers and</u> <u>farmworkers</u>
- Workers affected by foreign trade
- <u>Veterans and eligible spouses</u>

- Unemployment claimants
- TANF recipients
- Youth
- <u>Employers</u> and <u>workers</u> affected by mass layoffs or closures



WorkSource system partners

Many state, regional and local partners play integral roles in Washington's WorkSource system. In Washington, the state's <u>Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board</u> (Workforce Board) sets strategy at the state level. Its members include representatives from business, labor and government. The Workforce Board allocates funds to state agencies for secondary and post-secondary career and technical education.

Other government-based system partners include the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation within the Department of Social & Health Services, the Department of Services for the Blind, and the Department of Commerce.

Local Workforce Development Boards convene local one-stop system partners and develop workforce strategy for each WDA, depending on the needs of each region. Local boards include representatives from business, labor, state agencies, education, economic development, and community organizations.

Contact

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