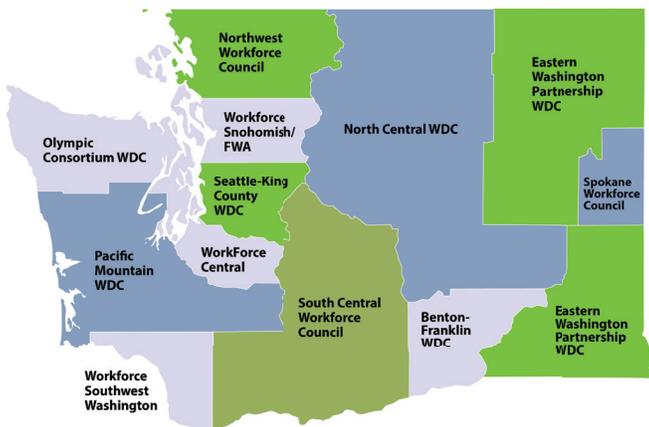


WASHINGTON STATE ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Built on local Workforce solutions.

Local Boards are a success story. We invest in people.

Local Workforce Development Boards (Local Boards) and the Washington Workforce Association (WWA) are key parts of the solution to fill the workforce pipeline and support employers with their workforce needs.



LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS IMPACT

STATEWIDE 2020/21

- Local Boards have a 74.7% placement and retention rate, matching job seekers with good-paying careers and actively working on talent acquisition for employers.
- Local Boards served over 15,000 employers.
- Local Boards served 78,000 workers.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

We recommend a strategic state investment in a \$50 million Workforce Impact Fund.

A \$50 million state investment each budget cycle will empower Local Boards with flexible funding that brings local solutions directly to job seekers and employers.

The state Workforce Impact Fund would:

- **Significantly expand employer engagement.** Increased Local Board capacity to build and sustain meaningful partnerships with employers, allowing regions to convene key stakeholders to develop and expand services that most effectively serve local businesses.
- **Expand investment in highly-skilled, job-ready individuals.** Increasing resources for skills-based training that lead to measurable gains and credential attainment would increase the employability of those served – especially disadvantaged populations.
- **Intensify focus on and outreach to priority at-risk and underserved populations.** In-community engagement is the most effective way to make a meaningful connection to underserved populations.
- **Expand work-experience and earn-and-learn opportunities.** Work experience and cost of training are significant barriers to job seekers re-entering the workforce. State investment in regional sector engagement will allow Local Boards to provide resources to cultivate, develop and fund work-experience and earn-and-learn opportunities.

THE NEED IS GROWING

- We have over 142,422 unemployed workers.
- Employers have more than 179,000 job openings.
- Workers are finding it increasingly difficult to return to the workforce due to lack of childcare and the rising costs of housing, food and basic necessities.

DRIVING SUCCESS

Local Boards are the unifying force that support workforce development, linking job seekers with services that allow them to re-enter the workforce and drive employer engagement in local workforce solutions.

Momentum for a Workforce Impact Fund is growing.

Local Boards and WWA are collaborating with the state Workforce Board, Governor's office, the state Employment Security Department, the state Department of Commerce, employers and labor groups as well as groups like WEDA to make the ongoing investment in a \$50 million Workforce Impact Fund a reality in 2023.

Together, we can secure an ongoing, flexible investment to close the workforce gap across industry sectors and foster economic opportunity for all across Washington state.

IMPACTING LIVES

Local Workforce Development Boards, with \$50 million state investment each year, can serve more employers and job-seekers. By the numbers:

6,400 – Number of additional employers served

4,000 – Number of additional people placed in good jobs

4,000 – Number of additional people trained to fill the workforce pipeline



LEARN MORE

Join the effort to help Washingtonians secure their futures.

[washingtonworkforce.org](https://www.washingtonworkforce.org) | 360-447-8729