

NEWS RELEASE

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Workforce Development Council to Meet in Boise Jan. 13

Idaho's Workforce Development Council will hold its quarterly meeting at the Oxford Suites in Boise Wednesday, Jan. 13, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The council will focus on the development of the combined state plan for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – WIOA – signed into law in 2014, which replaces the previous Workforce Investment Act of 1998. WIOA provides funding for several workforce development programs, the state's One-Stop system and the council. The core programs are:

- The Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, administered by the Idaho Department of Labor;
- The Adult Education program, administered by the Division of Professional-Technical Education;
- The Wagner-Peyser/Employment Services program, administered by the Idaho Department of Labor;
- Vocational Rehabilitation programs, administered by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The combined state plan also includes three partner programs:

- Jobs for Veterans State Grant Program, administered by the Idaho Department of Labor;
- Senior Community Service Employment Program, administered by the Idaho Commission on Aging;
- Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Program, administered by the Idaho Department of Labor.

Additional agenda items include updates from Idaho Department of Labor Director Ken Edmunds on proposed workforce-related legislation; the council's Youth Committee Chair, Linda Clark, on youth program services and Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction, Sherri Ybarra, on education issues.

Council members, appointed by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, represent businesses, workers, education, state and local government and community based organizations. The council's primary goal is to advise the governor and the State Board of Education on strategies designed to yield high quality workforce innovation and opportunity services for Idaho's businesses, job seekers and students.

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