Regionalism: The Framework of the Future

Presented by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
Today’s Objectives

By the end of this session, you will:

- Review regionalism concepts in WIOA
- Learn from expert practitioners
- Share your issues, concerns, promising practices; help inform future Federal guidance and technical assistance

This session – an opportunity to both learn and influence next steps!
Today’s Agenda

- Regionalism: WIOA’s requirements
- Perspectives from the Field
- What does the system need going forward?
Regionalism: What WIOA Says

WIOA provides designated regions the **responsibility** and **opportunity** to develop **employment and training systems** tailored specifically to **regional economies**.
Regionalism: Implementing WIOA

So, first, the regulations we will cover:

- §679.130(c)(5)
- §679.200
- §679.210
- §§679.500 through 679.540
§ 679.130 What are the functions of the State Workforce Development Board?

• List of +/-17 SWDB functions

• §679.130(c)(5) reads:

  (c) Development and continuous improvement of the workforce development system, including -
  (5) Identification of regions, including planning regions for the purposes of WIOA sec. 106(a), and the designation of local areas under WIOA sec. 106, after consultation with Local WDBs and chief elected officials
§679.200 What is the purpose of requiring States to identify regions?

• Alignment with:
  ➢ workforce development activities and resources
  ➢ larger regional economic development areas and available resources

• Provide coordinated and efficient services to both job seekers and employers
§ 679.210 What are the requirements for identifying a region?

- Governor must:
  - Approve
  - Develop a policy and process for identifying regions
  - Consider other factors

- Regions must consist of...
  - Planning regions.
§ 679.500 What is the purpose of the regional and local plan?

(a) The local plan serves as a 4-year action plan to develop, align, and integrate service delivery strategies and to support the State's vision and strategic and operational goals. The local plan sets forth the strategy to...

(b) In the case of planning regions, a regional plan is required to meet the purposes described in paragraph (a) of this section and to coordinate resources among multiple WDBs in a region.

(c) The Governor must establish and disseminate to Local WDBs and regional planning areas a policy for the submission of local and regional plans. The policy must set a deadline for the submission of the regional and local plans that accounts for the activities required in plan development outlined in §§ 679.510 and 679.550.
§ 679.510 What are the requirements for regional planning?

(a) Local WDBs and chief elected officials must participate in the regional planning process that results in:
- Developing the regional plan: 8 specific activities (1)(i)-(viii)
- Submitting single Regional Plan: 2 specific activities (2)(i)-(ii)

(b) Provide an opportunity for public comment on the development of the regional plan
- 5 specific activities (1)-(5)

(c) Provide technical assistance and labor market data... that assist in regional planning process

(d) As they relate to regional areas and regional plans, the terms local area and local plan are defined in WIOA secs. 106(c)(3)(A)-(B).
§ 679.520 What are the requirements for approval of a regional plan?

Governor must review complete plans and approve within 90 days after receipt, unless...

Governor determines:
- Deficiencies have been identified through audits and the local area has not made acceptable progress in implementing plans to address deficiencies; or
- Plan does not comply with applicable provisions of WIOA; regulations, including the required consultations and public comment provisions
- Plan does not align with the State Plan, including with regard to the alignment of the core programs to support the strategy identified in the State Plan in accordance with WIOA sec. 102(b)(1)(E) and § 676.105 of this chapter.
§ 679.530 When must the regional plan be modified?

a. The Governor must establish procedures governing the modification of regional plans.

b. Modification at the end of the first 2-year period (of the 4-year local plan),

- Changes to be reflected:
  ✓ in regional labor market and economic conditions; and
  ✓ Other factors affecting the implementation of the local plan.
§ 679.540 How are local planning requirements reflected in a regional plan?

(a) Must address the requirements in WIOA, and incorporate the local planning requirements identified for local plans.

(b) Governor may issue regional planning guidance...to address local planning requirements in regional plan.
Regionalism

Perspectives from the Field
Regionalism: Small Group Discussions

Your inputs for future guidance/technical assistance:

1. What are the principles of regionalism, and why are they so important?
2. Why is organizing regionally essential for the success of both workforce and economic development?
3. What compelling reasons drive stakeholders in workforce, education, and economic development to align across regions?
4. How could we define our services by customer needs, rather than by the programs that we fund?
5. How do we expand the conversation on collaboration, rather than limit it to consolidation?
6. How do we focus the work of boards on strategic planning for workforce preparation?
Guidance and technical assistance – under development

- We want your input!
  - Collaborative Learning Session held March 21, 2017

- WIOA Regional Convenings
  - Dallas
  - San Diego
  - DC

- Innovation and Opportunity Network (ION)
  - [https://ion.workforcegps.org/](https://ion.workforcegps.org/)

- Regional Office TA
Any Questions?
Contact Information

For questions regarding the information in presentation, send an email to*:

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*Please use “Regionalism: The Framework of the Future” as the subject line.
Thank you!