

## Oswego Title II

As discussed, LWDBs are responsible for providing local plan information to potential applicants related to the provision of WIOA Title II services in the local area. To do this, LWDBs must:

- I. Provide a description of the LWDB's strategic vision and goals for preparing an educated and skilled workforce, specifically addressing how to improve access to activities leading to a recognized post-secondary credential, as well as other strategies for serving out-of-school youth and adults who have low literacy skills, are English Language Learners, or lack a high school diploma or the equivalent.**

As the LWDB, our goal is to partner with our local businesses and community leaders to ensure that our current and future Oswego County workforce is trained with the necessary skills to obtain and retain jobs within our local and regional in-demand occupations - Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, Trades and Hospitality. The Workforce Development Board and staff, along with our highly skilled educators and training providers and our local legislative leaders will collaboratively make this goal a reality. Our focus will remain fixed upon the in-demand job opportunities throughout Oswego County, while simultaneously working with our partners to ensure that our regional training and educational support systems are strategic and effective. Our vision is to support a clearly articulated employment career ladder and a no wrong door philosophy designed to effectively deliver training and supportive services that parallel the specific skills required for our regions in-demand jobs. We will continue to work toward the development and refinement of "career ladders" that are based upon (certificate and or credit-bearing) a clear educational and training pathway.

- II. Provide a description of how the LWDB will expand access to employment, training, education, and supportive services provided through the NYS One-Stop Career Center system for Title II participants with barriers to employment.**

The LWDB is committed to working with all job seekers, including those identified as having barriers to employment such as limited English proficiency or literacy, disability, skills gaps, and ex-offender status, to plan the services best suited to their individual needs. These services are provided directly at the Career Centers by workforce experts. Additionally, program partners will work together to implement and monitor priority of service for individuals with barriers to employment, public assistance recipients, other low-income individuals, and individuals who are basic skills deficient.

As part of this process, individuals who might additionally benefit from Title II services, such as HSE equivalency classes, basic skills remediation and ESL services, are referred to appropriate providers. Priority for Individual Training Account (ITA) funds assignment for youth and adults is provided to training that result in industry-recognized credentials.

While involved in Title II activities, individuals may also be referred to supportive services and other agencies by One-Stop staff to work through perceived barriers and provide coordinated services via a case management system.

The LWDB also continues to expand its outreach efforts to Title II participants to make them aware of all of the career services, income supports, and other services available through a connection with the One-Stop center. An important goal of the LWDB as part of its support of individuals participating in Title II activities is to provide services that will allow them to accept and maintain living-wage employment. Services will include: job development, job posting, job match and referral, labor market information, as well as other employment support services. The LWDB will also promote and incentivize the use of On-the-Job-Training (OJT) strategies and work with business to identify how such strategies could be modified to increase use, especially for individuals facing barriers to employment.

**III. Identify how the LWDB will facilitate the development of career pathways and co-enrollment in academic and training programs.**

The LWDB actively promotes and supports programs that provide basic skills training, occupational training in career pathways, and HSE preparation. The LWDB continues to develop sector partnerships with local employers and training facilities to identify opportunities for training that supports local business needs. A successful local program that the LWDB supports through the One-Stop center is the I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training) program for Certified Nursing Assistants at a local training site.

**IV. Provide a description of how the LWDB will “support the strategy identified in the State Plan and work with the entities carrying out core programs and other workforce development programs, including those authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to support service alignment.”**

The LWDB continues to build strong collaborative partnerships with local educational institutions. In order to support the strategies identified in the State Plan and work with the entities carrying out core programs and other workforce development programs, including those authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to support service alignment, our LWDB works diligently with our area training partners to help design and implement pilot programs based on Occupational Clusters and local labor market research. The LWDB also encourages our local education and training partners to provide training programs that will result in Industry Specific Credentials, such as Licenced Practical Nursing (LPN) and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). As part of Supportive Services, we identify barriers prospective students might have to completing training - for example: a lack of transportation - and offer participants free bus passes. In addition, Perkins funding is used to support our Student Success Advocates and allows for any non-credit student that has an I.D. to access services on campus.