

Dear Michigan Workforce Investment System Partner:

I am writing to invite you to a series of stakeholder meetings sponsored by the Michigan Council for Labor & Economic Growth (CLEG) Maximizing System Effectiveness & Innovation Committee. CLEG is the state's workforce investment board and is charged with providing recommendations for the continuous improvement of Michigan's workforce investment system.

The purpose of the meetings is to provide an opportunity for public input in the workforce Boards of Excellence initiative. The goal of the Boards of Excellence initiative is to establish and adopt attributes of excellence that will recognize and reward high performing local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) in Michigan. A summary of the initiative is attached.

As a stakeholder in Michigan's workforce investment system, I am asking for your participation in one of the meetings representing the interests of your agency/organization. The following stakeholder meetings will be held in different geographical areas of the state, each dedicated to soliciting input and feedback on the proposed attributes of excellence:

Monday, March 29, 2010, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Livonia
Monday, April 26, 2010, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Grand Rapids
Monday, May 17, 2010, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Gaylord

Each meeting agenda will provide an overview of the initiative, and focus on the following areas of activity:

Alignment with state workforce strategy;
Strategic planning and implementation;
Local WDB engagement;
Fiscal oversight/revenue development; and
Accountability and measurement of results.

March 29, 2010 meeting location:

VisTaTech Center, Di Ponio Room 500D
Schoolcraft College
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152

Agendas and related materials will be available one week prior to the meetings and can be downloaded at:

www.michigan.gov/cleg

As space is limited, please RSVP to cleg@michigan.gov or by calling 517-241-8408. I look forward to your participation in this important initiative.

For questions, please contact CLEG staff at 517-241-8408 or at cleg@michigan.gov.

Thank you,

Tom Kimble, Chair
CLEG Maximizing System Effectiveness & Innovation Committee



Workforce Boards of Excellence Initiative Summary

The Michigan Council for Labor & Economic Growth (CLEG) *Maximizing System Effectiveness and Innovation* committee is charged with developing strategies for continuous improvement of the state workforce investment system. As part of this work, they are leading the *Workforce Boards of Excellence Initiative*, the purpose of which is to:

- Encourage a consistent level of quality service to businesses and job seekers across all of Michigan's 25 workforce development areas;
- Build the capacity of the workforce system to respond to the changing needs of Michigan's employers and job seekers; and
- Forge closer relationships between CLEG, local workforce board members, and other local leaders to drive workforce innovation.

The goal of the *Boards of Excellence (BOE) Initiative* is to establish and adopt state attributes of excellence that will recognize and reward high performing Local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) in Michigan. High performing boards meet and exceed federal and state statutory requirements and excel in the five areas of activity outlined below. Boards achieving BOE certification will qualify for financial awards.

- **Alignment with State Workforce Strategy**

Does the WDB oversee its programs in a way that embraces and supports No Worker Left Behind and its goal to increase educational attainment levels of the workforce to ensure Michigan's workers are prepared for the jobs of the new economy? Does the WDB focus on coordination of resources across multiple partners to achieve maximum success in serving workers with low skill attainment and other barriers to employment?

- **Strategic Planning and Implementation**

Has the WDB developed a strategic plan that is aligned with the State's goals for the workforce system, as well as that of local economic development, education, and other partners? Are the strategic plan and the activities of the WDB based on labor market and other relevant data? Is strategy regularly reviewed and adjusted to reflect and anticipate shifts in state and federal workforce policy and funding, as well as changes in local needs?

- **Fiscal Oversight and Revenue Development**

Does the board maintain an appropriate level of oversight of the fiscal activities of the system for which it is responsible and make decisions that maximize the resources under its control? Does the board seek out and utilize additional public and private resources to support its planned activities?

- **Accountability and Measurement of Results**

Is the WDB using data to gauge the effectiveness of activities beyond basic WIA performance measures? Is there a plan in place for continuous review and improvement of performance in these key areas?

- **Board Engagement**

Are the private sector members represented on the WDB representative of area employers and do they play an active role in the decisions made by the board? Are other key partners working with the WDB to achieve its goals?