



Mississippi Works:
WIOA
Newsletter

Vol 1/Issue 5
Monday, July 13, 2015

This newsletter will provide weekly updates regarding Mississippi's WIOA planning process. Our state will be an early implementer and will submit a combined plan on September 1, 2015.

What is a technical career pathway?

What counseling and rebranding efforts can help students understand the benefits of a technical career in Mississippi? Share your ideas of how we can promote opportunities in professional, high-paying positions by contacting James Williams at 601-321-6046 or jwilliams@swdb-ms.org.

Weekly Update:

Industry leaders recently provided input on Mississippi's current workforce system in a packed focus group at the computer lab in the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services building. Feedback from each business leader was captured during the focus group. Their feedback and subsequent discussion provided a baseline to show how well the state workforce system is meeting industry needs, identifying barriers, and offering solutions to ensure the state offers a thriving business climate.

The focus group was the latest of many steps to ensure that everyone who wants to be a part of the WIOA plan can make their voice heard. By obtaining the viewpoints of business leaders, we can create a plan that helps them advance their businesses through a strong, well-trained workforce built in Mississippi.



Mississippi business and industry partners met to share their perspectives on how well the state workforce system is meeting their needs.

Timeline

2nd Public Forum

Wednesday, July 22 – 5:30 PM at Mississippi Department of Education, Central High School Auditorium, 359 North West Street, Jackson, MS

SWIB Meeting and 3rd Public Forum

Friday, August 14 – 10:00 AM at the Jackson Convention Complex, 105 E. Pascagoula Street, Jackson, MS

Public Notice for Two Upcoming Public Forums:

The State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) will hold public hearings on Wednesday, July 22, at 5:30 p.m. in the Central High School Auditorium of the Mississippi Department of Education located at 359 North West Street in Jackson, Mississippi, and on Friday, August 14, at 10 a.m. at the Jackson Convention Complex located at 105 E. Pascagoula Street.

The purpose is to receive public comments on the planning of the state's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). These public hearings will be held in conjunction with the SWIB task force meetings and are

designed to give the public the opportunity to hear about the WIOA planning process and to offer any comments about the proposed plan.

Additional information and the planning document can be found at <http://swib.ms.gov/>. Written comments may be e-mailed to James Williams at jwilliams@swdb-ms.org and will be noted, recorded, and considered. These documents are available in Braille upon request. To review the documents on the Newsline for the Blind, please apply online at www.nfb.org or contact Margaret Smitherman at the Library for the Blind at (601) 432-4111.

For additional questions about accessibility or requests for accommodations during the meetings, please contact Kathryn Stewart at 601-985-4105 or Kathryn.stewart@butlersnow.com. All requests for accommodation at the meetings must be made at least one week prior to the proposed meeting time.

**In addition, WIOA Planning Meetings are held every Friday at 10 a.m. at NSPARC on the campus of Mississippi State University.*

Contact

For more information, visit the WIOA tab on our website at <http://swib.ms.gov/>.

Questions? Contact James Williams at 601-321-6046 or jwilliams@swdb-ms.org.