



Mississippi Works:
WIOA
Newsletter

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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 by the end of September

Weekly Update

On August 6, the Departments of Labor, Education, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and Housing and Urban Development released additional guidance that outlines the required elements that should be included in our combined state plan under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The information that needs to be collected as a result of these new guidelines are detailed descriptions of the overall strategic and operational elements as well as program-specific requirements for both core and partner programs. This week, the internal team has been working with agency directors to gather these additional elements and fine-tune our plan. Agency partners have been reviewing their specific sections of the plan and providing feedback to the technical team; partners will also have an opportunity to review the plan in its entirety. A conference call with the Department of Labor is scheduled to clarify any remaining technical questions.

One of WIOA's principal areas of reform is to require states to collaborate across programs and explain this planning process and how it promotes a shared understanding of workforce needs. Many of these comprehensive and integrated approaches require robust relationships across programs that will ultimately strengthen the delivery of services to businesses and workers.

On Friday, September 11, the general public will have the opportunity to review the entire plan at <http://swib.ms.gov/>. In continuing a transparent and collaborative process, there will also be a third public hearing on Friday, September 18, for stakeholders interested in participating and providing input before the plan is submitted to the Department of Labor prior to October 1.



The WIOA technical team cross-references recent DOL guidelines with our existing plan at the NSPARC facility in Starkville.

Timeline

WIOA Plan Published on Website for Public Comment

Friday, September 11

3rd Public Forum

Friday, September 18 - details TBD

SWIB/SWDB Meeting

Monday, September 28 - details TBD

**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 at <http://swib.ms.gov/>.

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