

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

Wendi Secrist
Executive Director



Deni Hoehne
Chair

Sarah Griffin
Vice Chair

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

514 W Jefferson St, Ste 131, Boise, ID 83702

Workforce Development Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – July 21, 2026

Committee Members: Hope Morrow, Lori Barber, Tom Kealey, Daniel Puga, ~~Jani Revier, John Smith, Lt. Governor Scott Bedke, Jeff Greene~~, Representative Sonia Galaviz, Colby Mattila, Kenny Huston, Pete Risse

Staff: Sherawn Reberry, Denise Hill, Stacy James, Amanda Ames, Tina Polishchuk, Kimberly Gardner, Chad Lahti, Alyssa Williams

Guests: Andy Moldenhauer, President Idaho AFL_CIO; Paula Kellerer, IBE CEO

Call to Order at 2:32 P.M.

Welcome

Hope Morrow, Chair

- *Roll Call*
- *Review Agenda*
- ****Review May 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes***

Motion by Mr. Huston to approve the May 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes as written. Second by Ms. Barber. Motion carried.

IBE Update

Paula Kellerer, IBE CEO

- Work-based learning tax credit for businesses proposed
 - A base credit of up to \$1,000 per eligible student or young adult placement;
 - Eligibility for internships, youth apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, Registered Apprenticeships and other approved work-based learning placements;
 - A tax credit certificate issued before filing, so employers and the State Tax Commission have clear documentation;
 - A statewide annual cap and annual report to control fiscal exposure and track outcomes;
 - A written learning agreement, minimum hours, safety requirements and mentor or supervisor designation to ensure quality;
 - Special consideration for rural employers, small businesses and high-demand career pathways.
- Want to encourage more businesses to engage
- 16 – 24-year-olds
- Gain real-world education and skills
- 22 states offer tax credit to do work-based learning & placement
- Revisions to code 63-20-39 to incentivize employers
- With some adjustment would this fit into the WDC Registered Apprenticeship Incentive Grant?
 - Purpose similar, grant is narrower

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- The hope would be to widen so not federally registered apprenticeships only
- Internships would be included
- Funding amounts align for participant and employer, addition of federally registered apprenticeships in a rural area in a high-demand pathway up to \$1500 per participant
- Registered apprenticeship retention rates 90%
- Feedback:
 - Is this new, carve out, or change to current?
 - WDC oversight and reporting body?
 - Incentive in advance?
 - Reporting clarification?
- No additional funding
- Business would incur some expense
- Specific concerns employers voiced for not using existing program
 - School districts referred to the \$12 benchmark
 - Some employers voiced the work involved was more than they had bandwidth for
- Want to ensure if we support, ensure we are accountable and actionable
- Topic to be revisited at future meeting

Idaho LAUNCH Update

Sherawn Reberry

- Class of 2024 & 2025, 11% increase in in-state enrollment, 12% decrease in out-of-state enrollment
- Top 5 programs remain the same in 2026
- Increase 3.04% enrollment to non-institution training providers
- Over 16K students going through launch as of June 1, 2026
- 67% of 2026 have accepted
- 12,850 adults to date have utilized Adult LAUNCH
- 39.6 % increase in annual salary for Adult LAUNCH participants
- IPTV segments Idaho Jobs Explained
- New addition to Next Steps Idaho, Chatbot "Rocket"

Open Conversation

- Send thoughts to Sherawn & Hope regarding the IBE conversation
 - Staff to provide what exists, what we do, what is proposed
 - Is it creating what we intended

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Puga. Second by Mr. Kealey. Motion carried.

Adjourned 3:45 P.M