

Southeast Tennessee Local Workforce Board PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act, notice is hereby given that the Southeast Tennessee Local Workforce Development Board will release the East Region and the Southeast Local plans for public comment to the [Public Notices](#) section of our website on April 8, 2024. The plans will be open for public comment from April 8th – 22nd, 2026.

Public comments may be submitted following any of the options below. Input will be presented to the Southeast Regional Planning Council and Southeast Local Workforce Board for consideration in alignment with the State of Tennessee's Workforce Services Vision.

Date and Time: **April 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern**

Join: **Microsoft Teams meeting**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/24174440387166?p=t4qCaKYqW6ZJfdVWhp>

Meeting ID: 241 744 403 871 66

Passcode: CF2Hz3Du

Email: **setworks@sedev.org**

Individuals, including individuals with disabilities, who wish to participate in these proceedings should contact the Southeast Tennessee Development District to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Such contact may be in person, by writing, telephone, or other means and should be made by Friday, April 10, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time to allow time to provide such aid or service. Contact Southeast Tennessee Development District, 1000 Riverfront Parkway, P. O. Box 4757 Chattanooga, TN 37405 at (423) 424-4210. Hearing impaired callers may use TN Relay 711.

Blake Markham, Workforce Board Chair
Southeast Tennessee Local Workforce Development Board

WIOA Strategic Workforce Development Plan

Regional Plan Modifications Template

PYs 2026-2027



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Regional Area Information

TN Regional Area: _____

Local Workforce Development Area(s) Contact Information:

Executive Director Name

Email Address

Regional Director Contact Information:

Regional Director Name

Email Address

Date of Form Submission: _____

Regional Labor Market Analysis:

- a. Utilizing the data provided by TDLWD WIRRED Report, provide an **updated** analysis of regional economic conditions, including existing and emerging in-demand sectors and occupations, and the employment needs of businesses in those sectors and occupations.

- b. Describe the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to meet the employment needs of businesses in those sectors and occupations.

- c. Provide an **updated** analysis of the regional workforce, incorporating current labor employment and unemployment data, information on labor market trends, and educational and skill levels of the workforce, including individuals with barriers to employment.

- d. How will these **updated** analyses be shared with all partners and used to influence decisions regarding the regional workforce system?

Support of State Initiatives:

- a. Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR)
 - i. Describe how the region will coordinate a collective approach to ensuring a regional workforce system that helps people, particularly those within special populations, enter, reenter, and advance within the labor market, in effort to increase the regional LFPR.

- ii. What regional initiatives will be implemented to promote reemployment and career mobility through multiple avenues; work-based learning, short-term credentials, stackable training opportunities, and pathways that recognize prior experience and demonstrated ability?

b. Business Engagement

- i. How will the region ensure consistent implementation of **TNWorks** to provide streamlined solutions **and consistent messaging** to employer customers?

- ii. How will the RPC **utilize established regional business intermediaries and economic development groups to** facilitate the sector partnerships necessary to drive sector strategies and address the needs of business and industry?

- iii. Describe how the RPC will utilize TDLWD Regional Directors to facilitate **TNWorks** and promote alignment with economic development within the region, including how the Regional Directors will report progress to the RPC.

- c. Youth Employment Program (YEP)
 - i. What opportunities exist for a collective approach to YEP implementation across the region, **particularly focused on work experience placements within high demand and emerging sectors?**

- ii. How will the RPC leverage partnerships to increase YEP participation and job placement within the region? **Include how the RPC will utilize employer partnerships, non-profits, and program partnerships, such as Vocational Rehabilitation, within the Region.**

- d. State Registered Apprenticeships
 - i. Describe how the RPC plans to collectively expand State Registered Apprenticeships through diversifying and accelerating apprenticeship programs aligned with in-demand sectors for the region.

- ii. Describe how the RPC will coordinate a regional plan to scale apprenticeships, aligning education and training programs to career pathways, and targeting federal and state investments toward employer-led upskilling initiatives designed to fill talent shortages in high demand sectors.

Regional Service Strategies:

- a. Provide an **updated** analysis of workforce development activities, including education and training, **focused on industry driven needs** within the region.
 - i. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the workforce development activities and the collective capacity to provide workforce development activities to address the education and skill needs of the workforce, including individual with barriers to employment.

- b. **Provide an updated plan for** how the RPC will support alignment and integration of education and workforce and economic development across the region?
 - i. How will the RPC **assess** and measure **impact** of integrated workforce strategies?

- c. Describe **how** the RPC has **updated its** strategic vision to support **federal priorities and state initiatives** that foster regional economic growth.
- i. What innovative service strategies will be used to address regional educational and **industry-driven** training needs?
 - ii. What cooperative procedures, either formal or informal, will the partners establish to best align regional services and coordinate regional delivery?

Sector Initiatives for In-Demand Sectors or Occupations:

- a. Identify in-demand industry sectors and occupations **for 2026-2027** within the region **using updated data provided from TDLWD WIRRED Report.**

- b. Describe the development and implementation of sector initiatives for in-demand industry sectors or occupations. **Include a description of how the RPC will ensure sector initiatives are driven by industries within the region.**

- c. How will these sector initiatives be tracked and measured for **impact**?
Include any accountability measures assigned to LWDAs within the region.

Economic Development/Business Engagement:

- a. How will the RPC ensure employers play a central role in defining in-demand skills, validating training models, and steering investments toward the roles and credentials that matter most? Include how the RPC will prioritize results and reward programs that place workers directly into apprenticeships or other work-based learning opportunities leading to in-demand jobs.

- b. **How will** the RPC ensure a collective regional approach to initiatives (such as registered apprenticeships, incumbent worker training programs, on-the-job training programs, and customized training solutions) **be modified** to facilitate **increased** engagement of businesses, including small businesses and businesses in in-demand sectors and occupations, **and how will their impact be measured?**

- c. **Considering federal priorities and state initiatives, provide an update on what innovative initiatives, utilizing tools such as registered apprenticeships, incumbent worker training programs, on-the-job training programs, and customized training solutions, will the RPC coordinate to meet the training needs of employers across LWDAs?**

Coordination of Supportive Services:

- a. **Applying flexibility and innovation**, describe how supportive services, **including transportation and childcare**, will be **aligned** and coordinated throughout the region.

- b. Explain where diverse demographics make regional coordination of supportive services a challenge. **What has been done to provide solutions** and how the RPC will ensure barriers are equitably addressed?

Performance Accountability:

- a. Describe **updated** strategies relating to the performance accountability measures based on performance indicators to include State and Local Measures (Key Performance Indicators), to include:
 - i. How the RPC will work with each LWDA to achieve the negotiated **federal measures and state KPIs?**
 - ii. How will the **KPIs** be monitored and **impact assessed and measured?**

- b. What additional metrics, outside of KPIs, will the region measure to determine success of regional strategies and **assess impact of initiatives? How will the RPC know if the workforce needle is moving?**

Coordination of Cost Arrangements:

- a. Describe the coordination of administrative cost arrangements, including the pooling of funds for administrative costs, as appropriate.

- b. Identify any additional funding resources the region plans to collectively seek, including opportunities for LWDAs to partner towards application of non-WIOA grants.

- c. Identify opportunities for the RPC to collaborate with industry groups or sector partnerships to coordinate cost-sharing arrangements, or to partner towards application of sector-based grant funds.

Public Comment:

- a. Describe the process used by the region to provide a period of **at least 15 but** no more than 30 days for public comment.

Stakeholder Involvement:

- a) Describe how stakeholder requirements were met for the regional plan **modifications**, pursuant to the TDLWD Regional and Local Plan policy.

- b) Describe outreach efforts to all required planning partners and provide relevant information on all plan **modification** meetings, listening sessions, or other public meetings related to the plan **modifications** process.

Attachments:

- a. Documentation of CLEO approval (sample provided)