

## ***I. WIOA STATE PLAN TYPE AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

### **A. WIOA STATE PLAN TYPE**

**Unified or Combined State Plan.** Select whether the State is submitting a Unified or Combined State Plan. At a minimum, a State must submit a Unified State Plan that covers the six core programs. Unified or Combined State Plan. Select whether the State is submitting a Unified or Combined State Plan. At a minimum, a State must submit a Unified State Plan that covers the six core programs.

**Unified State Plan.** This plan includes the Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, Wagner-Peyser Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation programs.

**Combined State Plan.** This plan includes the Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, Wagner-Peyser Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation programs, as well as one or more of the optional Combined State Plan partner programs identified below.

This is a combined plan.

#### **COMBINED PLAN PARTNER PROGRAM(S)**

Indicate which Combined Plan partner program(s) the state is electing to include in the plan.

Career and technical education programs authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, as amended by the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.)

No

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)

Yes

Employment and Training programs under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (programs authorized under section 6(d)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(d)(4)))

Yes

Work programs authorized under section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o))

No

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers programs (activities authorized under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2271 et seq.))

No

Jobs for Veterans State Grants Program (programs authorized under 38, U.S.C. 4100 et seq.)

Yes

Unemployment Insurance programs (programs authorized under State unemployment compensation laws in accordance with applicable Federal law)

Yes

Senior Community Service Employment program (programs authorized under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.))

Yes

Employment and training activities carried out by the Department of Housing and Urban Development

No

Community Services Block Grant (Employment and training activities carried out under the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.))

Yes

**B. PLAN INTRODUCTION OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Unified or Combined State Plan may include an introduction or executive summary. This element is optional.

The Tennessee Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Plan embodies the essence of the State's vision to have the nation's premier workforce system. Broadly speaking Tennessee's public workforce system includes three primary state workforce agencies: Labor and Workforce Development, Human Services and Education. However, the Department(s) of Economic and Community Development and Corrections were key contributors to the design and coordination of strategic and operational components.

We will continue to leverage our existing assets in each local workforce development area to attract new businesses and to help our existing businesses expand and remain competitive. The services we provide across the State have allowed Tennesseans to successfully enter the workforce despite numerous barriers to employment. By providing services to employers and citizens, we are paving the way for a brighter future for all Tennesseans.

The WIOA plan focuses on the following key elements:

1. Improving services to new and existing businesses for the enhancement and expansion of operations and talent recruitment and retention
2. Improving skills and credential attainment by expanding vocation education and workforce development programs;
3. Supporting regional and rural economic development strategies;
4. Enhancing services and opportunities for justice-involved citizens; and
5. Streamlining the delivery of support services in workforce development by collaborating with key agencies and organizations.

Our realigned Local Workforce Development Areas foster collaborative engagement among local leaders and partners in the areas of workforce, education, and economic development. This effort gives communities increased access to higher education and training opportunities.

This alignment also enables Tennessee's state agencies to deliver services and manage public resources in a sound, fiscally conservative manner. Through a focus on deliberate collaboration with essential partners, we strive to carry forward our work in a more intentional and meaningful manner for the benefit of all Tennesseans.

As we move into the future, Tennessee acknowledges the rapidly changing world of technology, workforce, and business. The State also recognizes emerging challenges faced by citizens to participate in the workforce due to changing employer demands for specific skills. These factors guide Tennessee's long-term success. The development of this WIOA plan serves as a necessary opportunity to evaluate all aspects of our workforce system to chart a promising path towards our goal.

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