

LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AREA 14
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into by the County Board Chairs of the Counties of Adams, Brown, Hancock, Henderson, Knox, McDonough, Pike, Schuyler, and Warren and Mayors of the Cities of Galesburg, Macomb, Monmouth and Quincy, hereinafter collectively referred to as Chief Elected Officials (CEOs). Its purpose is to describe how CEOs will organize themselves and act to fulfill their responsibilities for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) services provided in Local Workforce Innovation Area 14 (LWIA 14), a Local Workforce Innovation Area designated by the Governor under WIOA.

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The name of the Consortium shall be the Chief Elected Officials Consortium of Western Illinois in LWIA 14.
2. This Agreement reflects the unanimous decisions of all thirteen CEOs holding office at the time of signing.
3. It is agreed that CEO decisions required under this Agreement shall be made in a democratic manner and that each CEO shall have an equal vote in all deliberations. A simple majority vote shall be required to approve or deny any action required to fulfill the CEO responsibilities covered by this Agreement.
4. This Agreement may be amended or modified at any time by the affirmative vote of 40 % of the nine county officials and four mayors holding office at the time of modification.

B. CEO DESIGNATION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Each CEO signing this agreement shall assume the roles and responsibilities assigned collectively to the CEOs under WIOA.
2. Each CEO may appoint a member of the county board of that county or of the designated city to act in his or her place under this Agreement.
3. The CEOs shall select from among their members a Chair and Vice-Chair. These two members have signatory authority for CEOs as may be required to provide for the continuous provision of WIOA services in LWIA 14. The CEO Consortium will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually with terms according to the CEO Consortium bylaws.
4. The Chair shall preside at each meeting. The Vice-Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair or at other times when the Chair is unable to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Chair. Should the Chair resign prior to the completion of the term as Chair, or be unable to conduct the duties of Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume the position of Acting Chair until the next annual election.

5. The Chair shall provide an agenda prior to each meeting. Any member may request an item be added to the agenda.
6. The CEOs shall meet at least quarterly to conduct the business required of them under WIOA.
7. Six members or more shall represent a quorum at meetings.
8. To fulfill their oversight responsibilities under WIOA, the CEOs shall receive from its designated Grant Recipient and Fiscal Agent (if applicable) the following information for review prior to each meeting:
 - a. Reports and other documents that summarize the current financial conditions of all WIOA grants awarded to LWIA 14, including income, expenditures, fund balances, comparison to approved budget and other financial metrics the CEOs may identify in conjunction with the execution of their responsibilities under this Agreement.
 - b. Reports and other documents that summarize current program performance in LWIA 14 against the negotiated performance standards required under WIOA, including whether the local area is meeting, exceeding or failing to meet each performance standard.
 - c. Reports and other documents that summarize known compliance issues or concerns along with an explanation of any out-of-compliance notices received for any program for which the CEOs retain ultimate financial liability.
9. Should any member of the Consortium have a conflict of interest pertaining to any issue coming before the Consortium, or if there is an appearance of a conflict of interest, that member shall declare any such conflict prior to any discussion on the issue and shall refrain from voting on said issue.
10. The Consortium shall comply with the Open Meetings Act and shall operate under Robert's Rules of Order.
11. It is the intent of all CEOs that WIOA services be provided to all counties within this consortium on an equitable and fair basis, taking into account the total funds available and the proportional need for services of each county.

C. APPOINTMENTS TO THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD (LWIB)

The CEOs have the exclusive responsibility to appoint members to the local Workforce Innovation Board of area 14 from individuals recommended or nominated by each class of membership.

1. The CEOs shall ensure that private sector LWIB members are nominated timely to expedite approval of these nominees by the state.
2. The CEOs shall nominate members to ensure that at all times a majority of LWIB membership (minimum 51%) are business representatives which represent business owners, chief executive officers, and other executives with optimum policy making or hiring authority. At least two of the business representatives must represent small businesses as defined by the Small Business

Administration. CEOs shall seek business nominations from local business organizations and trade associations.

3. The CEOs shall nominate members to ensure that at all times not less than 20% of the LWIB membership are workforce representatives which represent labor organizations, joint labor-management or union affiliated registered apprenticeship program, community-based organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise addressing the employment, training or education needs of individuals with barriers to employment, and representatives of organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the employment, training and education needs of eligible youth, including out-of-school youth.
4. Each CEO, or designee, is responsible for appointing private sector members from the CEOs county/city. These members must reside or work within the county of appointment.
5. A CEO may appoint a member who lives or works in a different county if that appointee meets all the requirements and is approved by the CEO from which the appointment would normally come.
6. The CEOs will determine if any additional members shall be appointed beyond those minimally required by WIOA or the state. If any such appointments are made, the 51% business representative membership and 20% labor representative membership requirement shall be maintained.
7. The minimum number of private sector representatives appointed to the local Workforce Innovation Board of LWIA 14 from each county/city shall be: [List Number for Each County/City – see attached]. Any CEO serving on the LWIB as a private sector member will be counted as an appointment from the serving CEO's county.
8. The CEOs shall agree on the public sector appointments to the LWIB. These appointments shall be made to assure geographical balance throughout the local workforce innovation area.
9. Appointments shall be as specified in Addendum No. 1 to this agreement outlining three-year terms, with one-third of the membership to be appointed each year Based on the most recent U.S. census.
10. Members may continue to serve on the LWIB until:
 - a. Their term of office expires; however, the member may continue to serve until the replacement nominees' required documents are approved and confirmed in writing by the state;
 - b. The classification under which they were appointed changes;
 - c. The appointment is revoked by the appointing CEO;
 - d. The member becomes incapacitated or otherwise unable to complete their term of office; or
 - e. The member resigns.

11. Vacancies shall be filled in a timely manner and in accordance with WIOA requirements and State policy.
12. CEOs shall perform an annual assessment of the Board's membership and performance to ensure that the Board is performing adequately and in accordance with the direction and guidance CEOs provide.

D. DESIGNATION OF GRANT RECIPIENT/FISCAL AGENT

WIOA requires the Chief Elected Official(s) to serve as the grant recipient for all WIOA Title I funds and to enter into a grant relationship with the State. Under a unanimous decision CEOs may also elect to designate a fiscal agent to administer these funds and to fulfill the role of grant recipient. Even if CEOs designate a grant recipient and fiscal agent, they remain liable for any misused funds and for expenditures that are determined unallowable under WIOA.

In accordance with the flexibility of CEOs under WIOA, the CEOs:

1. Designate Western Illinois Works, Inc. to fulfill the role of grant recipient/fiscal agent. This designation shall remain in force until the CEOs vote by majority to make a change.
2. Expect Western Illinois Works, Inc. to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations pertaining to the responsibilities of grant recipient/fiscal agent as defined under WIOA law, regulations and State of Illinois policy.
3. Expect Western Illinois Works, Inc. to assume primary liability for any disallowed costs associated with the provision of fiscal agent services and shall be held liable for any disallowed costs by the CEOs.
4. Recognize that the designation of Western Illinois Works, Inc. does not absolve CEOs of their collective liability for misspent WIOA funds. In the event WIOA expenditures are disallowed and CEOs are unsuccessful at obtaining repayment from Western Illinois Works, Inc., each county/city shall be responsible for a portion of any such liability based on the annual WIOA formula allocation for the applicable County. CEOs must agree on the method of sharing the amount of disallowed funds between the applicable County and City jurisdictions. In general:
 - a. If disallowed costs are not attributable to a specific funding source, then repayment of the amount of disallowed funds is calculated based on the annual share of the formula allocations combined for Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth funds by the applicable County.
 - b. If disallowed costs are attributable to a specific funding source, then repayment of the amount of disallowed funds is calculated based on the annual share for only that funding stream for the applicable county.
 - c. Required payment of disallowed costs must be made from non-federal fund sources.

E. CEO PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

1. The CEOs and LWIB shall develop and submit a local plan to the Governor that meets the requirements in WIOA Section 108. The completed local plan shall be subject to the approval of the CEOs at a scheduled CEO meeting. The CEOs and LWIB must be in agreement on the local plan before it is submitted to the Governor. The local plan must be consistent with the state plan.
2. The local board shall collaborate with the other local boards and chief elected officials from such other local areas in the preparation and submission of a regional plan as described in WIOA section 106(c)(2). The regional plan must be consistent with the state plan.
3. In partnership with the LWIB, the CEOs shall conduct oversight for local youth workforce investment activities authorized under WIOA section 129(c), local employment and training activities authorized under subsections (c) and (d) of section 134, and the one-stop delivery system in the local area. Oversight must ensure the appropriate use and management of the funds provided under subtitle B for the activities and system and for workforce development activities. Oversight must also ensure the appropriate use, management, and investment of funds to maximize performance outcomes under section 116. Results shall be reported to the CEOs and LWIB and shall be reviewed and approved at scheduled meetings.
4. The local board, with the agreement of the chief elected official for the local area, shall designate or certify one-stop operators through a competitive process and may terminate for cause the eligibility of such operators.
5. The LWIB shall develop a budget subject to the approval of the CEOs. The LWIB, with the assistance of the grant recipient/fiscal agent, shall develop a budget consistent with the local plan for its activities and submit the budget to the CEOs for their approval. The grant recipient/fiscal agent must distribute grant funds as approved by the CEOs provided that the disbursement does not violate WIOA or any other applicable law.
6. Section 121(b)(2) allows the LWIB and CEOs to approve additional partners that carry out workforce development programs consistent with that described in WIOA for participation in the one-stop delivery system.
7. The local board, with agreement of the CEOs, shall develop and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning the operation of the one-stop delivery system in the local area with the One-Stop Partners as described under WIOA section 121. The completed MOUs shall be subject to CEO approval and shall be reviewed and approved by the CEOs and LWIB at scheduled meetings.

F. CEO AGREEMENT AND CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNOR AND, AS NECESSARY, THE LWIB

1. The LWIB, the CEOs, and the Governor shall negotiate and reach agreement on local performance accountability measures as described in WIOA section 116(c).

2. In agreement with the Governor, the CEOs may allow the LWIB or staff to provide career services or be certified or designated as a One-Stop Operator.
3. The CEOs may request a waiver from the Governor to allow the local board or staff to the local boards to be able to provide training services.
4. The CEOs will consult with the Governor in the development of a reorganization plan, following decertification of the LWIB for fraud, abuse, failure to carry out functions, or non-performance.
5. The CEOs and the LWIB will work with the State to facilitate the State's provision of statewide rapid response activities.
6. The Governor, in coordination with the LWIB and the CEOs in the State, shall establish and operate a fiscal and management accountability information system based on guidelines established by the Secretary after consultation with the Governor, CEOs and the one-stop partners (such guidelines shall promote efficient collection and use of fiscal and management information for reports and monitoring the use of funds made available and for preparing the annual report).
7. The CEOs will consult with the Secretary of Labor or Governor regarding any federal or state-funded activity in the local area.

G. RELATED AGREEMENTS

1. The CEOs and local board must enter into additional written agreements when a single entity performs multiple functions in a local area. These functions include: local fiscal agent, local board staff, one-stop operator, or direct provider of career services or training services.
 - a. The written agreement will serve to limit conflict of interest or the appearance of conflict of interest, minimize fiscal risk, and develop appropriate firewalls within a single entity performing multiple functions.
 - b. The agreement must clarify how the organization will carry out its responsibilities while demonstrating compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and corresponding regulations, relevant Office of Management and Budget circulars, and the state's conflict of interest policy.

H. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. No member of the CEOs or the LWIB or its standing committees shall cast a vote on any matter which has direct bearing on services to be provided by that member (or any organization which such member directly represents) or on any matter which would provide direct financial benefit to such member or the immediate family of such member, nor shall any such person engage in any activity determined by the Governor to constitute conflict of interest as specified in the state plan.

2. CEO member(s) and/or staff so affected shall identify any real or perceived conflict of interest prior to discussion and consideration of the matter. The minutes of the meeting shall document compliance with the conflict of interest requirements.

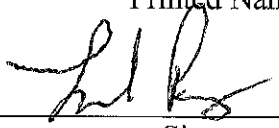
I. TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall be effective from February 7, 2024 and shall expire upon the termination of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, dissolution of the LWIA, or future action taken by CEOs to establish a new agreement.

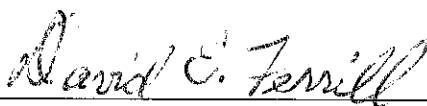
J. SIGNATURES

Each CEO in the LWIA must sign below to indicate his/her acknowledgment and understanding of this agreement. By signing this Agreement, all CEOs understand that this Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements relating to the responsibilities of CEOs in LWIA 14. Note: CEOs sign this document on behalf of the governmental entity they represent and not as individuals.

For Adams County

Les Post	Adams County Board Designee
_____ Printed Name	_____ Title
 _____ Signature	3/21/2024 _____ Date

For Brown County

David Ferrill	Brown County Board Chair
_____ Printed Name	_____ Title
 _____ Signature	20 Mar 2024 _____ Date

For Hancock County

Mark Menn

Hancock County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title


Signature

3-19-2024
Date

For Henderson County

Brad Flatt

Henderson County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title


Signature

3-21-2024
Date

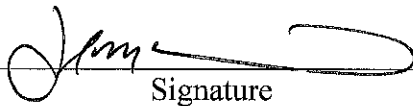
For Knox County

Jared Hawkinson

Knox County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title


Signature

2/25/2024
Date

For McDonough County

L. Scott Schwerer

McDonough County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title


Signature

2/13/2024
Date

For Pike County

Andy Borrowman

Pike County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title

Andy Borrowman
Signature

3-20-24
Date

For Schuyler County

Chet Esther

Schuyler County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title

Chet Esther
Signature

3/20/24
Date

For Warren County

Michael Pearson

Warren County Board Chair

Printed Name

Title

Michael Pearson
Signature

21 Mar 24
Date

For City of Galesburg

Peter Schwartzman

Mayor, City of Galesburg

Printed Name

Title

Peter A. Schwartzman
Signature

3/21/24
Date

For City of Macomb

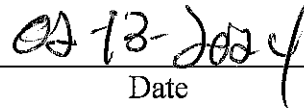
Michael Inman

Mayor, City of Macomb

Printed Name

Title





Signature

Date

For City of Monmouth

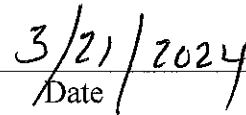
Rod Davies

Mayor, City of Monmouth

Printed Name

Title





Signature

Date

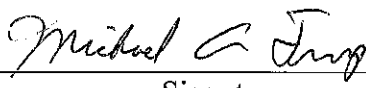
For City of Quincy

Mike Troup

Mayor, City of Quincy

Printed Name

Title





Signature

Date