

KENTUCKY WORKSMART STRATEGIC PLAN

VISION STATEMENT

Kentucky will transform the workforce development system through innovative practices which enhance sustainable economic and job growth to improve the lives of Kentuckians.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Align the Commonwealth's workforce development system with Kentucky's education objectives

- Increase communication and collaboration between workforce boards and boards of education, technical education, postsecondary education.
- Increase the number of postsecondary and work-ready high school graduates.
- Promote educational options, including technical education, two-year and four-year college, apprenticeships and specialty training to younger students.
- Increase awareness of educational and skills requirements for high-demand jobs, as well as those in emerging industries.
- Establish the concept of life-long learning as a norm in the 21st century.

Align the Commonwealth's workforce development system with economic development strategies

- Increase communication and collaboration between workforce boards and economic development agencies.
- Develop "rapid response" framework for new jobs based on model for layoffs.
- Refine and promote evolving methods of projecting jobs and training needs of the future.
- Increase opportunities for entrepreneurship in a culture of innovation.

Simplify the workforce development service delivery system

- Simplify online services and focus on innovative user-friendly applications.
- Transform the identify of the "unemployment office".
- Increase the awareness and use of online job matching and training services.
- Increase use of job portal (Focus Suite) by employers and jobseekers.
- Reduce confusion and information overload for those unfamiliar with the system.
- Increase communication among all service delivery points.

Improve service to achieve a customer-centered delivery system

- Increase awareness within the system that "clients" of the workforce system, include those with jobs to fill as well as those seeking a job.
- Decrease wait time for services.
- Increase use of workforce system as a resource for employers to identify, screen, match, interview and prepare candidates for work.
- Provide customer service training to all service delivery staff.
- Increase use of online tools and resources.
- Provide up-to-date resources for all clients.
- Increase contacts with employers and economic development agencies regarding future workforce needs.
- Develop benchmarks and base-line standards for consistency within the system (physical, program and customer services) while allowing for local and regional adaptation.