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Henry McMaster
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To: Local Workforce Area Signatory Officials
Local Workforce Area Board Chairs
Local Workforce Area Administrators

From: State Workforce Development Board

Subject: **High-Performance Board Incentive Award**

Date: July 1, 2024

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) authorizes the use of funds reserved by the Governor for statewide employment and training activities. The State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) directs the investment of these funds in alignment with state priorities. To recognize and incentivize Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB) for their leadership and support of the state's workforce system through innovative practices, the SWDB has approved the development of a High-Performance Board Incentive Award.

A high-performing LWDB provides leadership to the local workforce development system, oversees opportunities to strengthen and build the local area's workforce and economic capacity, and leads the alignment with the state's education and workforce systems to meet the needs of employers and job seekers.

INCENTIVE AWARD ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, the LWDB must complete the following:

- ✓ Meet Federal Requirements, WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance, and State-Specific Performance Measures.
- ✓ Promote regionalism through the use of multi-area strategies.
- ✓ Employ innovative practices aligning with one or more of the State Plan Goals/Objectives:
 - Develop and create an effective customer-driven workforce system through alignment of programs and policies, the use of leading-edge technology, and high-quality staff.
 - Prepare job seekers for high-wage, high-growth, high-demand, and high-mobility/retention (4H) occupations through relevant

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- training and skills acquisition, and match job seekers to open employer positions.
- Improve the education and workforce infrastructure network by decreasing obstacles to work in order to improve recruitment and retention of workers, which is necessary to maintain economic development competitiveness.

Innovative practices or initiatives may be identified by the following criteria:

Initiative is, or will be, implemented in partnership with other education, workforce, economic development, social service, or non-profit entities.	The lead entity is a LWDB or a LWDB's service provider.
Initiative focuses on creating talent pipelines in high-growth, high-demand industries.	
Initiative targets priority populations and/or underserved communities.	The LWDB is willing to assist other LWDBs or entities with implementing the promising practice.
Initiative met or exceeded target outcomes or is on track to do so.	

APPLICATION AND EVALUATION

Application instructions will be sent to LWDA's at the end of Program Year 2024.

High-Performance Board Incentive Award(s) will be provided to the selected area(s) through a reimbursement grant. The LWDBs must complete all activities within a period of performance not to exceed 12 months from the date of award. **This deadline will not be extended.**

INCENTIVE PAYMENT INFORMATION

During Program Year 2025, LWDBs who meet specific requirements will receive at least \$50,000 in High-Performance Board Incentive Awards based on their Program Year 2024 activities.

Questions may be directed to WorkforcePolicy@dew.sc.gov.