

Summary of public comments and plan partner responses: 2022 draft modification of the 2020 – 2023 Combined State Plan for Nebraska's Workforce System

The Nebraska Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Labor and the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired released the draft 2022 modification of the Combined State Plan for Nebraska's Workforce System, in compliance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The draft modification was published on February 16, 2022 for a 30-day public comment period, which ended March 18, 2022. The draft modification will remain accessible on the Nebraska Department of Labor's [Manuals, Plans, and Reports webpage](#), under the section titled "WIOA Combined State Plan and Modifications", until the proposed 2022 modification has been approved by Federal partners.

During the 30-day public comment period, public comments could be submitted by email to ndol.wioa_policy@nebraska.gov. Public comments could also be submitted during a public hearing, which was held on March 2, 2022 at 10a CST at 3901 North 27th Street, Suite 6, Lincoln, Nebraska 68521. This hearing was broadcasted simultaneously at the following Nebraska VR locations:

- Kearney – 315 West 60th Street, Suite 400
- Lincoln – 3901 North 27th Street, Suite 6
- Omaha – 1313 Farnam on the Mall
- Scottsbluff – 505A Broadway, Suite 500

In addition, the hearing was held via Zoom.

For the public hearing, auxiliary aids and services were available upon request to individuals with disabilities. If accommodations were needed, interested parties were directed to contact Cinda Wacker at cinda.wacker@nebraska.gov at least three (3) days prior to the hearing.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program TDD: 800.833.7352.

The following page provides an account of received public comments.

Public comments received in writing

Commenter and topic	Comment	Response to comment
Disability Rights Nebraska	The structure of the Board (p. 72) has no representation by people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A description of the membership of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board does not appear on page 72 of the published draft 2022 modification.• Section III.b.3.B.i., page 90 of the published draft 2022 modification, includes the membership roster of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board (the Board). Lindy Foley, Director of Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation (Nebraska VR), serves on the Board as a representative of individuals with disabilities.
Disability Rights Nebraska	Customized employment (p. 79) addresses customized training with employers but lacks a discussion about the individual with a disability in the customization process. The individual with a disability in the customized employment context is a key player: the identified needs of the employer are served within the context of employment which is customized to the individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of customized employment does not appear on page 79 of the published draft 2022 modification. There is reference, however, on page 79 to customized training.• WIOA Title IB authorizes the provision of customized training services to employers, which is distinctly different than customized employment services for individuals with disabilities.• Discussion of customized employment services for individuals with disabilities appears in various subsections of the program-specific sections for Vocational Rehabilitation (General), which begins on page 170, and Vocational Rehabilitation (Blind), which begins on page 227.

Public comments received during the public hearing

Public comments were not provided during the public hearing held March 2, 2022.