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Nebraska Workforce Development Board Meeting
Friday, June 12, 2026, 9:00a – 12:00p
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center
1800 North 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE 68503
<https://dol.nebraska.gov/ReemploymentServices/Training/WIOA/NWDB>

Agenda

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Call to order | Bradley Schroeder |
| 2. Roll call | Kelly Flanagan |
| 3. Notice of publication | Kelly Flanagan |
| 4. Approval of March 13, 2026 meeting minutes ¹ | Bradley Schroeder |
| 5. Approval of May 4, 2026 meeting minutes ¹ | Bradley Schroeder |
| 6. Old business | |
| a. Workforce Pell Eligible Programs | Katie Thurber |
| 7. New business | |
| a. Medicaid Work Requirements | Craig Steele |
| b. Building Nebraska's Future Workforce: A Statewide Landscape Assessment | Isaac Hill |
| c. Nebraska Manufacturing Alliance Credential | Doug Rood |
| d. Nebraska State Apprenticeship Agency | Delta Wilson |
| e. Title II and Workplace Literacy | Laura Ruppert |
| f. Lexington Response Efforts | Erick Carrillo |
| 8. Next meeting of the Board | Bradley Schroeder |
| 9. Public comment | Bradley Schroeder |
| 10. Adjournment ¹ | Bradley Schroeder |

¹ Requires voice vote.

² Requires a motion and roll call vote.



Nebraska Workforce Development Board

Draft Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2026

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center

1800 North 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE 68503

<https://dol.nebraska.gov/ReemploymentServices/Training/WIOA/NWDB>

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Bradley Schroeder (Brad) called to order the meeting of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board (hereafter referred to as the Board) on March 13, 2026, at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center, 1800 North 33rd Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68503.

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Brad asked Kelly Flanagan to call roll for purposes of establishing a quorum of the Board. Kelly called roll and advised Brad that quorum was established (13 of 21 Board Members attending).

Board Members *attending*

1. Senator Kathleen Kauth
2. Jim Bulkley
3. Steve Corsi
4. Gary Dixon, Jr.
5. Tate Lauer
6. Sara Riffel
7. Brad Schroeder, Acting Chair
8. Keisha Thomas
9. Paul Turman
10. Kevin Wetuski
11. Lisa Wilson
12. Courtney Wittstruck
13. Mark Wright

Board Members *not attending*

1. Governor Jim Pillen
2. Joanna Estrada
3. Lindy Foley
4. Michael Geary
5. Jim Hansen
6. Don Nordell
7. Jennifer Sedlacek
8. Katie Thurber

Also attending were the following members of the Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Board support team.

1. Kathy Cedillo, Program Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
2. Kelly Flanagan, Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
3. Stephanie Geery-Zink, Policy and Grants Management Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
4. Joel Green, Agency Legal Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
5. Peyton McQuay, Administrative Specialist, Office of the General Counsel
6. Joseph Tisko, Program Analyst, Division of Reemployment Services

Agenda item 3. Notice of Publication

Kelly Flanagan announced that public meeting notices were published, in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#), in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Columbus Telegram, Grand Island Independent, Hastings Tribune, Kearney Hub, Lincoln Journal Star, Norfolk Daily News, North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World-Herald, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Kelly announced that public meeting notice was also published on the [State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#).

Agenda item 4. Approval of December 5, 2025 meeting minutes

Brad called the next order of business, which was the approval of the draft meeting minutes from the December 5, 2025, meeting of the Board. The draft minutes from the December meeting were emailed to Board Members on March 10, 2026. The meeting minutes were included in Board Member packets as Handout 1.

Brad opened the floor to Board Members for comment on the draft minutes. Board Members did not comment on the draft minutes. Brad opened the floor for public comment on the draft minutes. Public comments were not provided.

Senator Kathleen Kauth motioned to approve the December minutes, as provided, and Paul Turman seconded the motion. Members of the Board voted on the motion by acclamation vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda item 5. Old Business

a. Career Pathways and Alignment Workgroup Appointments

Brad said that Nebraska's combined state plan defines goals and strategies for preparing an educated and skilled workforce that meets the needs of Nebraska employers as:

- Selection and prioritization of development of career pathways; and
- Alignment of the state's workforce development system.

He said in 2021, the Board established two workgroups to implement the goals in accordance with the strategies defined in the plan:

- The Career Pathways Workgroup implements statewide goal number 1, and
- The Alignment Workgroup implements statewide goal number 2.

Brad said that as permitted under Sections 3.1(b) and 6.2 of the Board's bylaws that he has recently appointed and reappointed Board members and other workforce system partners to serve on the Workgroups, as listed in Handouts 2a and 2b in the Board packets. The Workgroups will report to the Board on progress toward achievement of the goals.

Agenda item 6. New Business

a. 2024-2027 Combined State Plan Modification

Brad addressed the Board concerning the submission timeline for Program Year 2026 and 2027 modification of the Combined State Plan. The plan was initially due March 3, 2026, but NDOL requested an extension to April 30 on behalf of the plan partners to include the Nebraska Department of Education's Career and Technical Education program in the plan. The extension request was approved. The plan was

posted for public comment from January 30 to March 2 and a public hearing was held on February 12. The board was notified of the public comment period and public hearing by email on January 28.

b. Program Year 2024 annual statewide performance report

Brad said the WIOA Annual Statewide Performance Report for Program Year 2024 was submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor and the State Legislature on November 26, 2025, in compliance with Federal and State Law. A link to the annual report was sent to the Board by email on March 10 and is also accessible at <https://dol.nebraska.gov/annual-reports/home> under “Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.”

The report was not included in the board packet due to its length. The report includes information about customer satisfaction outreach, progress towards the state plan’s strategic vision and goals, performance results, rapid response activities, waiver data, and allocation amounts.

c. Research and Evaluation Project Goals for 2026

Brad said states are required to use WIOA funds to conduct research and evaluation activities. Last year, NDOL conducted a study on the impact of supportive services on participant outcomes. The final research paper is currently under review by NDOL’s public information office and then will be posted to NDOL’s website.

Research and Evaluation activities must be coordinated with and designed in conjunction with state and local workforce development boards and state agencies responsible for administration of WIOA Title I, II, III, and IV programs, which are commonly referred to as core programs, Brad said.

An outline of NDOL’s research and evaluation project for 2026 was included as Handout 3 in the board packet. NDOL is soliciting feedback on this project from the Board as well as local boards and Nebraska’s core partners.

Brad asked for questions, ideas, and feedback through the policy mailbox at ndol.wioa_policy@nebraska.gov.

d. Selection of board representatives to the State Rehabilitation Council and the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council

Brad requested that the Board members consider serving as a board representative on the Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council and the State Rehabilitation Council. Terri Ridder previously served on both councils but has since retired. Brad said those interested in the positions can look at Handout 4 in the board packet and let him or a member of the board support team know after the meeting if they would like to serve.

e. Registered Apprenticeship

Brad introduced Delta Wilson with the Nebraska Department of Labor to provide an update on Registered Apprenticeship activities in Nebraska. He referred the board to Handout 5a and Handout 5b to view during the presentation.

Delta said Registered Apprenticeships refer to a full-time, paid work opportunity that not only involves on-the-job training, but incorporates related technical instruction, mentorship, wage increases, and a portable certification that encompasses all the hard work an apprentice does to become an expert in their

field. She said there are Registered Apprenticeship programs in just about every industry. She thanked Sen. Kauth for introducing LB847, the Registered Apprenticeship Act, in the Legislature this session which will continue the process of Executive Order 25-15, the Good Life, Great Careers Initiative. These efforts will give the Nebraska Office of Registered Apprenticeships more attention. Delta asked the board to have more hands-on involvement in creating, supporting, and monitoring Registered Apprenticeship programs in Nebraska. The goal is to add 6,000 new apprenticeships by the end of 2030.

Delta requested that the board learn about Registered Apprenticeships, talk about them with people they know, and support existing programs. If there is feedback, she would like to know. She also promoted National Apprenticeship Week during the last week in April and added there are events across the state and encouraged the board to attend.

f. Workforce Development Grant Committee Recommendations

Brad said the board will vote on the applications to recommend to Commissioner Katie Thurber for her final decision. At the December board meeting, the board voted to establish two grant committees, Regional and Industry, which met in February to review the applications and determine which applications to send to the full board.

The board considered the following applications:

Girls Incorporated of Omaha
Good Life Community Development
IronConnect
Lighthouse
Lincoln Electrical JATC
Nebraska CDL/IWS Trucking
Nebraska Health Care Association
Nebraska Methodist College
OneWorld Community Health Centers
Pioneer Welding Services LLC
Trane U.S. Inc.
Aksarben Foundation
Applied Information Management Institute (AIM)
Avenue Scholars
Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska at UNMC
CareerPathways.com
Heartland Workforce Solutions
Ignite Nebraska
Midland University
Rabble Mill dba the Bay

Brad asked for any questions or comments from the board. Jim B. asked if there was a limited amount of funds. And if that was the case does the board modify the amount. It was noted that the board is only narrowing the selection down to 18 and that the Commissioner would be making the final decision and may choose to modify the amount granted. Rea Easton, Chief Financial Officer at NDOL, said there was \$4 million available in the fund.

Brad asked for comments from the public. Jamie Simpson from Midland University spoke on behalf of the university's application, noting the teacher shortage and that the university could provide teaching internships. Melanie Connolly from Westside Community Schools spoke in favor of the application of Midland University.

Brad announced that the board will vote on the applications.

It was moved by Jim Bulkley and seconded by Sara Riffel to advance Aksarben Foundation for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer, Courtney Wittstruck. The motion carried.

It was moved by Gary Dixon Jr. and seconded by Steve Corsi to advance Lincoln Electrical JATC for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright; Abstained: Tate Lauer; Kevin Wetuski. The motion carried.

It was moved by Steve Corsi and seconded by Mark Wright to advance OneWorld Community Health Centers Inc. for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Voting against: Sen. Kathleen Kauth. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Courtney Wittstruck and seconded by Gary Dixon Jr. to advance CareerPathways.com for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Steve Corsi and seconded by Sara Riffel to advance Heartland Workforce Solutions for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Lisa Wilson and seconded by Gary Dixon Jr. to advance Midland University for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Mark Wright. Voting against: Sen. Kathleen Kauth. Abstained: Tate Lauer, Paul Turman, Courtney Wittstruck. The motion carried.

It was moved by Steve Corsi and seconded by Mark Wright to advance Nebraska CDL/IWS Trucking for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Courtney Wittstruck and seconded by Sara Riffel to advance Ignite Nebraska for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Voting against: Gary Dixon Jr. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Steve Corsi and seconded by Brad Schroeder to advance Pioneer Welding for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Steve Corsi, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Lisa Wilson. Voting against: Jim Bulkley, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion failed.

It was moved by Paul Turman and seconded by Courtney Wittstruck to advance Nebraska Hospital Association for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Sara Riffel, Brad

Schroeder, Paul Turman, Courtney Wittstruck. Voting against: Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Keisha Thomas, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion failed.

It was moved by Brad Schroeder and seconded by Steve Corsi. to advance Nebraska Health Care Association for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Sara Riffel and seconded by Paul Turman to advance Applied Information Management Institute (AIM) for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Abstained: Steve Corsi, Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Gary Dixon Jr. and seconded by Sen. Kathleen Kauth to advance Avenue Scholars for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Keisha Thomas, Kevin Wetuski. Voting against: Jim Bulkley, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Lisa Wilson, Mark Wright. Abstained: Tate Lauer, Paul Turman, Courtney Wittstruck. The motion failed.

It was moved by Courtney Wittstruck and seconded by Mark Wright to advance Lighthouse for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Voting against: Gary Dixon Jr., Sara Riffel, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Brad Schroeder and seconded by Jim Bulkley to advance Nebraska Methodist College for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Mark Wright. Voting against: Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Sara Riffel. Abstained: Tate Lauer, Paul Turman, Courtney Wittstruck. The motion carried.

It was moved by Jim Bulkley and seconded by Paul Turman to advance IronConnect for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Gary Dixon Jr., Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Voting against: Sen. Kathleen Kauth, Lisa Wilson. Abstained: Tate Lauer. The motion carried.

It was moved by Steve Corsi and seconded by Brad Schroeder to advance Trane U.S. Inc. for consideration by the Commissioner. Voting in favor: Jim Bulkley, Steve Corsi, Sara Riffel, Brad Schroeder, Keisha Thomas, Paul Turman, Kevin Wetuski, Lisa Wilson, Courtney Wittstruck, Mark Wright. Voting against: Sen. Kathleen Kauth. Abstained: Tate Lauer, Gary Dixon Jr.. The motion carried.

The following organizations' grant applications will be formally submitted to the Commissioner of Labor for her consideration:

Aksarben Foundation
Applied Information Management Institute (AIM)
CareerPathway.com
Heartland Workforce Solutions
Ignite Nebraska
IronConnect
Lighthouse
Lincoln Electrical JATC
Midland University
Nebraska CDL/IWS Trucking

Nebraska Health Care Association
Nebraska Methodist College
OneWorld Community Health Centers Inc.
Trane U.S. Inc.

The following organizations' grant applications were not selected for submission to the Commissioner of Labor for her consideration:

Avenue Scholars
Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska
Girls Incorporated of Omaha
Good Life Community Development
Nebraska Hospital Association
Pioneer Welding Services LLC
Rabble Mill dba The Bay

Jim B. asked when the applications would be finalized. Joel Green, General Counsel for NDOL, said that there is no specific time frame for the Commissioner to make a decision. Paul said he would like to hear the Commissioner's feedback on what she is looking for in the grant applications.

Agenda item 7. Next meeting of the Board

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Friday, June 12, 2026, from 9 a.m. to noon at the NET Center, 1800 North 33rd Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Agenda item 8. Public comment

Brad opened the floor for public comment. Erin Porterfield from Heartland Workforce Services thanked the board for considering their proposal. She added appreciation to the directors of the state departments. She said the demand has increased in Omaha and there is need for uniting resources so they can collaboratively serve the public. Steve agreed that more collaboration is good.

Agenda item 9. Adjournment

Brad asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board. Courtney motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Senator Kauth seconded the motion. Members of the Board voted on the motion by acclamation vote. The motion carried unanimously. Brad adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Nebraska Workforce Development Board-Special Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2026, 2:00p-4:00p

Virtually at <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21262952732514?p=fK4hnN0CeCUxrXeyCI>

Meeting ID: 212 629 527 325 14

Passcode: bg2fr7b6

and virtually at the American Job Center, American Job Center, 1330 N Street Suite A, Lincoln, Nebraska

<https://dol.nebraska.gov/ReemploymentServices/Training/WIOA/NWDB>

Agenda item 1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Bradley Schroeder (Brad) called to order the meeting of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board (hereafter referred to as the Board) on May 4, 2026, at approximately 2:00 p.m. virtually on Microsoft Teams and at the American Job Center, 1330 N Street, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68508

Agenda item 2. Roll Call

Brad asked Kelly Flanagan to call roll for purposes of establishing a quorum of the Board. Kelly called roll and advised Brad that quorum was established (13 of 21 Board Members attending).

Board Members *attending*

1. Senator Kathleen Kauth
2. Jim Bulkley
3. Steve Corsi
4. Lindy Foley
5. Michael Geary
6. Tate Lauer
7. Brad Schroeder, Acting Chair
8. Jennifer Sedlacek
9. Keisha Thomas
10. Katie Thurber
11. Paul Turman
12. Lisa Wilson
13. Courtney Wittstruck

Board Members *not attending*

1. Governor Jim Pillen
2. Gary D. Dixon Jr.
3. Joanna Estrada
4. Jim Hansen
5. Don Nordell
6. Sara Riffel
7. Kevin Wetuski
8. Mark Wright

Also attending were the following members of the Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Board support team.

1. Kathy Cedillo, Program Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
2. Kelly Flanagan, Administrator, Division of Reemployment Services
3. Stephanie Geery-Zink, Policy and Grants Management Coordinator, Division of Reemployment Services
4. Joel Green, Agency Legal Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
5. Joseph Tisko, Program Analyst, Division of Reemployment Services
6. Gerald Pankonin, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
7. Isaac Hill, Labor Division Director, Office of the General Counsel

8. Scott Hunzaker, Labor Division Director, Division of Labor Market Information
9. Dennis Forgrave, Administrative Programs Officer, Office of the General Counsel

Agenda item 3. Notice of Publication

Kelly Flanagan announced that public meeting notices were published, in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#), in the Beatrice Daily Sun, Columbus Telegram, Grand Island Independent, Hastings Tribune, Kearney Hub, Lincoln Journal Star, Norfolk Daily News, North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World-Herald, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Kelly announced that public meeting notice was also published on the [State of Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#).

Agenda item 4. Old Business

The Board had no old business to consider.

Agenda item 5. New Business

a. Workforce Pell Implementation

Labor Commissioner Katie Thurber presented information related to Workforce Pell implementation, which goes into effect on July 1, 2026. Commissioner Thurber shared Workforce Pell regulation requirements that the Governor consults with the Workforce Development Board on Workforce Pell policies, practices, and eligible programs, which will be an ongoing process.

Referencing the policy document entitled “Program Eligibility Policies and Application Procedures,” Commissioner Thurber summarized the Program Evaluation Criteria, which are the requirements that programs must meet to be Workforce Pell eligible. Commissioner Thurber discussed the initial occupation list of high-skill, high-wage, and/or in-demand professions. The policy also includes details regarding NDOL Review, Compliance Determination, and Cure Processes.

Commissioner Thurber shared the policy document “Appeal Policy,” which summarizes the Appeals Process if a program is initially rejected from participation in Nebraska’s Workforce Pell program.

Commissioner Thurber summarized the “Monitoring and Compliance Policies,” including Quarterly Reporting Requirements, Renewal and Continued Approval, Value-Added Earnings Compliance, and Loss and Regaining of Eligibility.

Commissioner Thurber shared the “2026-2027 Initial Eligible Occupation and Program List.” This lists all occupations that have been deemed eligible for Workforce Pell in Nebraska. Commissioner Thurber requested the board reach out with suggestions for other professions not covered by this initial list so that they can be considered.

Next, Commissioner Thurber shared the “Tribal Nations” policy document which states that Nebraska Tribal Nations retain full sovereignty over decisions affecting the tribes. They can either go through the Nebraska Workforce Pell Grant application process or develop and establish their own policies and application process for participation.

The policy documents will be posted on the NDOL website at dol.nebraska.gov once finalized.

Agenda item 6. Next meeting of the Board

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Friday, June 12, 2026, from 9 a.m. to noon at the NET Center, 1800 North 33rd Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Agenda item 7. Public comment

Brad opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

Agenda item 8. Adjournment

Brad asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board. Senator Kathleen Kauth motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Lisa Wilson seconded the motion. Members of the Board voted on the motion by acclamation vote. The motion carried unanimously. Brad adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Boys Town

14100 Crawford Street
Boys Town, NE 68010
6/9/2026

David Ballard III
Career Skills Coach
Metropolitan Community College
FOC Building 15-South

Dear Mr. Ballard,

Boys Town is pleased to offer this letter of support for Metropolitan Community College's efforts to expand I.T. workforce pathways, including the CompTIA Tech+ program.

We value MCC as a regional partner and have seen firsthand the engagement and potential of its students. Building accessible entry points into the I.T. field aligns with the growing need for skilled talent and creates practical pathways for individuals to develop relevant, job-ready capabilities.

We support MCC's initiative to broaden training opportunities and strengthen the local talent pipeline. Programs like CompTIA Tech+ can play a meaningful role in preparing learners for careers in technology and supporting workforce development across the region.

This letter reflects our general support for MCC's program development and does not constitute any commitment, partnership agreement, or guarantee of employment.

Sincerely,
Dmitriy Khots Ph.D.

Dmitriy Khots

VP Data Analytics
W: 531-355-1586 M: 515-988-0524
14100 Crawford Street
Boys Town, NE 68010



boystown.org

BOYS TOWN NATIONAL HOTLINE 800-448-3000



HILL BROS. TRANSPORTATION – OMAHA, NEBRASKA

HEADQUARTERS 11620 M CIRCLE 402.331.2503 WWW.HILLBROS.COM

June 9, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Letter of Support for Metropolitan Community College's CDL A with E Restriction Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board,

On behalf of Hill Bros. Transportation, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Metropolitan Community College's CDL A with E Restriction program as part of Nebraska's Workforce Pell implementation.

The transportation and logistics sector continues to be essential to Nebraska's economy. Employers across the state rely on qualified commercial drivers to move goods, support construction and infrastructure projects, serve agricultural and food distribution systems, and meet the needs of growing regional industries. MCC's CDL A with E Restriction program directly responds to this workforce demand by preparing students for entry-level commercial driving employment in a short-term, career-focused format.

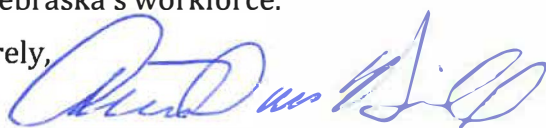
This program is especially important because it provides students with a clear pathway to employment in an occupation that offers immediate workforce value. Students gain technical training, safety preparation, and hands-on driving experience needed to enter the commercial driving field. The credential is portable across employers and industries, and it aligns with state and federal commercial driving requirements.

MCC's program also supports stackable career advancement. Students who complete the CDL A with E Restriction program may continue building their skills through additional endorsements, employer-based training, registered apprenticeship opportunities, or related credit pathways in transportation, logistics, diesel technology, supply chain, or other skilled trades programs. This creates both an immediate employment outcome and a longer-term pathway for continued education and wage growth.

The CDL A with E Restriction program aligns strongly with the purpose of Workforce Pell. It is short-term, employment-focused, connected to an in-demand occupation, and designed to help students move quickly into the workforce while maintaining opportunities for continued advancement. MCC has instructional expertise, employer relationships, and student support infrastructure needed to implement this program responsibly and effectively.

We support the approval of Metropolitan Community College's CDL A with E Restriction program for Workforce Pell eligibility and believe it will provide meaningful benefit to students, employers, and Nebraska's workforce.

Sincerely,



Albert M. Hill
President
Hill Bros. Transportation
402.670.9315 cell



June 9, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's Pharmacy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

On behalf of Nebraska Medicine, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its Pharmacy Technician program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

As Nebraska's academic health system, Nebraska Medicine relies on a strong pipeline of skilled healthcare professionals to meet the needs of patients across our region. Pharmacy technicians are critical members of the healthcare team, supporting medication management, pharmacy operations, patient safety, and the work of pharmacists across a variety of care settings. Programs such as MCC's Pharmacy Technician training help address workforce shortages by preparing qualified professionals to enter the workforce quickly and contribute immediately to patient care.

MCC's 14-week Pharmacy Technician program provides students with 150 hours of focused training that prepares them for employment in a variety of healthcare settings. Upon completion, students are eligible to sit for a nationally recognized certification exam, earning an industry-recognized credential valued by employers throughout the healthcare sector.

The Workforce Pell program will help expand access to this high-demand career pathway, allowing more students to gain the skills and credentials needed to enter or advance within the healthcare workforce. We believe MCC is well positioned to deliver this training and support student success.

We strongly support approval of MCC's Pharmacy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amy McMurtry'.

Amy McMurtry, PharmD
Vice President, Pharmacy and Lab Services

SERIOUS MEDICINE. EXTRAORDINARY CARE.®

June 9, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

On behalf of Lozier Corporation, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

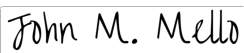
As a firm that relies on technology across every aspect of our operations and client services, Lozier Corporation recognizes the importance of developing a strong pipeline of technology talent. Employers increasingly need workers who can navigate digital systems, troubleshoot technical issues, support end users, and adapt to rapidly changing technology environments. Foundational IT professionals play an important role in helping organizations remain productive, secure, and competitive.

MCC's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program provides students with 15 weeks and 110 hours of focused training that prepares them for entry-level technology roles. Upon completion, students are eligible to earn nationally recognized industry credentials that validate foundational IT knowledge and skills valued by employers across a wide range of industries.

The Workforce Pell program will help expand access to this high-demand career pathway, allowing more students to gain the skills and credentials needed to enter or advance within the technology workforce. We believe MCC is well positioned to deliver this training and support student success.

We strongly support approval of MCC's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,


box SIGN 13J8L9P8-1JZ7X5PL

Director of Information and Operational Technology.
Lozier Corporation

June 9, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

On behalf of Lutz, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

As a firm that relies on technology across every aspect of our operations and client services, Lutz recognizes the importance of developing a strong pipeline of technology talent. Employers increasingly need workers who can navigate digital systems, troubleshoot technical issues, support end users, and adapt to rapidly changing technology environments. Foundational IT professionals play an important role in helping organizations remain productive, secure, and competitive.

MCC's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program provides students with 15 weeks and 110 hours of focused training that prepares them for entry-level technology roles. Upon completion, students are eligible to earn nationally recognized industry credentials that validate foundational IT knowledge and skills valued by employers across a wide range of industries.

The Workforce Pell program will help expand access to this high-demand career pathway, allowing more students to gain the skills and credentials needed to enter or advance within the technology workforce. We believe MCC is well positioned to deliver this training and support student success.

We strongly support approval of MCC's CompTIA Tech+ with Google IT Support program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Kroeger".

Scott Kroeger
Lutz Tech Shareholder



**METHODIST
FREMONT HEALTH**

Handout 3

June 8, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Methodist Fremont Health
450 E. 23rd St.
Fremont, NE 68025
(402) 721-1610
bestcare.org

RE: Letter of Support for Metropolitan Community College's Pharmacy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board,

On behalf of Methodist Fremont Health, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Metropolitan Community College's Pharmacy Technician program as part of Nebraska's Workforce Pell implementation.

Pharmacy technicians are an important part of Nebraska's healthcare workforce. They support pharmacists, patients, hospitals, clinics, retail pharmacies, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare settings. As healthcare systems continue to experience workforce shortages and growing service demands, programs that prepare students for pharmacy technician roles are critical to strengthening access to care and supporting safe, effective pharmacy operations.

MCC's Pharmacy Technician program provides students with technical training, professional preparation, and hands-on learning needed to enter the field. The program prepares students for employment by building knowledge in medication safety, pharmacy operations, customer service, healthcare ethics, and workplace expectations. It also gives students exposure to real-world pharmacy environments through work-based learning or externship experiences.

This program is a strong Workforce Pell candidate because it is short-term, career-focused, and aligned with an in-demand healthcare occupation. It provides students with an opportunity to earn a recognized credential and move quickly into employment while also maintaining a connection to future education and career advancement.

The Pharmacy Technician program is also stackable. Students may continue into MCC credit pathways and related healthcare programs, including health information management, nursing, medical assisting, public health, health sciences, or other allied health fields. For many students, pharmacy technician training can serve as both an entry point into healthcare employment and a foundation for continued education.

MCC has a strong history of delivering workforce training that responds to employer needs while supporting students through completion, transition, and employment. This program reflects the type of practical, career-connected training Workforce Pell was designed to support.

We support the approval of Metropolitan Community College's Pharmacy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility and believe it will help students access meaningful employment while strengthening Nebraska's healthcare workforce.

Sincerely,

Bill Vobejda
President & CEO
Methodist Fremont Health



**METHODIST
FREMONT HEALTH**

Handout 3

June 8, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Methodist Fremont Health
450 E. 23rd St.
Fremont, NE 68025
(402) 721-1610
bestcare.org

RE: Letter of Support for Metropolitan Community College's Phlebotomy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board,

On behalf of Methodist Fremont Health, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for Metropolitan Community College's Phlebotomy Technician program as part of Nebraska's Workforce Pell implementation.

Healthcare employers continue to need skilled entry-level workers who are prepared to enter the workforce quickly and safely. Phlebotomy technicians play a critical role in patient care, laboratory testing, diagnostics, and healthcare operations. This program provides students with the technical knowledge, hands-on training, and workplace preparation needed to begin employment in hospitals, clinics, laboratories, outpatient care centers, and other healthcare settings.

MCC's Phlebotomy Technician program is a strong fit for Workforce Pell because it connects students to a high-demand healthcare occupation through a short-term, structured training pathway. The program includes technical instruction, career preparation, and work-based learning experiences that help students understand both the clinical and professional expectations of the healthcare workplace.

This program is also stackable and portable. Students who complete phlebotomy training may continue into additional healthcare credentials and MCC credit pathways, including programs in nursing, medical assisting, emergency medical services, health information management, laboratory-related fields, or other allied health programs. The credential gives students an immediate employment opportunity while also serving as a first step into broader healthcare career pathways.

The Phlebotomy Technician program supports Nebraska's need for trained healthcare workers and expands access for students who are seeking a faster, more affordable path into the healthcare field. MCC's experience with healthcare training, student support, and employer partnerships makes the college well positioned to deliver this program with quality and accountability.

We support the approval of Metropolitan Community College's Phlebotomy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility. This program will help students gain a meaningful credential, enter the healthcare workforce, and continue building toward long-term career advancement.

Sincerely,

Bill Vobejda
President & CEO
Methodist Fremont Health
bill.vobejda@nmhs.org

June 10, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board Nebraska
Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's Pharmacy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

On behalf of the Nebraska Hospital Association, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its Pharmacy Technician program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

The Nebraska Hospital Association represents 92 member hospitals and health systems across the state, from rural Critical Access Hospitals to urban medical centers and academic health institutions. Our members rely on a strong pipeline of skilled healthcare professionals, and programs such as MCC's Pharmacy Technician training help address critical workforce needs.

Healthcare employers across Nebraska continue to need qualified professionals who can enter the workforce quickly and contribute immediately to patient care. Pharmacy technicians play an essential role in healthcare delivery by supporting medication management, pharmacy operations, patient safety, and the work of pharmacists across hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and community pharmacies.

MCC's 14-week Pharmacy Technician program provides students with 150 hours of focused training that prepares them for employment in a variety of healthcare settings. Upon completion, students are eligible to sit for a nationally recognized certification exam, earning an industry-recognized credential valued by employers throughout the healthcare sector.

The Workforce Pell program will help expand access to this high-demand career pathway, allowing more students to gain the skills and credentials needed to enter or advance within the healthcare workforce. We believe MCC is well positioned to deliver this training and support student success.

We strongly support approval of MCC's Pharmacy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Nordquist
President & CEO
Nebraska Hospital Association

June 10, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board Nebraska
Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's Phlebotomy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

On behalf of the Nebraska Hospital Association, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its Phlebotomy Technician program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

The Nebraska Hospital Association represents 92 member hospitals and health systems across the state, from rural Critical Access Hospitals to urban medical centers and academic health institutions. Our members rely on a strong pipeline of skilled healthcare professionals, and programs such as MCC's Phlebotomy Technician training help address critical workforce needs.

Healthcare employers across Nebraska continue to need qualified professionals who can enter the workforce quickly and contribute immediately to patient care. Phlebotomy technicians play an essential role in healthcare delivery by collecting and processing specimens that support diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing patient care.

MCC's 14-week Phlebotomy Technician program provides students with 150 hours of focused training that prepares them for employment in hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and other healthcare settings. Upon completion, students are eligible to sit for a nationally recognized certification exam, earning an industry-recognized credential valued by employers throughout the healthcare sector.

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We strongly support approval of MCC's Phlebotomy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Nordquist
President & CEO
Nebraska Hospital Association

June 8, 2026

Nebraska Workforce Development Board
Nebraska Department of Labor
550 South 16th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Support for Metropolitan Community College's Phlebotomy Technician Workforce Pell Program

Dear Members of the Nebraska Workforce Development Board:

As Chair of the Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology at University of Nebraska Medical Center and Nebraska Medicine, I am pleased to support Metropolitan Community College's application to make its Phlebotomy Technician program eligible for Workforce Pell funding.

Our clinical laboratories depend on a strong pipeline of skilled healthcare professionals to meet the needs of patients across our region. Phlebotomy technicians are critical members of the healthcare team, collecting and processing specimens that support diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing patient care. Programs such as MCC's Phlebotomy Technician training help address workforce shortages by preparing qualified professionals to enter the workforce quickly and contribute immediately to patient care.

MCC's 14-week Phlebotomy Technician program provides students with 150 hours of focused training that prepares them for employment in hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and other healthcare settings. Upon completion, students are eligible to sit for a nationally recognized certification exam, earning an industry-recognized credential valued by employers throughout the healthcare sector.

The Workforce Pell program will help expand access to this high-demand career pathway, allowing more students to gain the skills and credentials needed to enter or advance within the healthcare workforce. We believe MCC is well positioned to deliver this training and support student success.

We strongly support approval of MCC's Phlebotomy Technician program for Workforce Pell eligibility and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Joseph Khoury, M.D.
Stokes-Shackleford Professor and Chair

Medicaid Work Requirements Nebraska Workforce Development Board June 12, 2026

Note: The information contained in this document is based on guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and other federal entities. The information in this document is subject to change based on updated guidance from CMS, changes to law or regulation, or other circumstances.

NEBRASKA

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Medicaid Work Requirements Update

- ▶ H.R. 1 (the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”) was passed into federal law on July 4, 2025, and made many changes to the Medicaid program, including work requirements.
- ▶ Work requirements **only** apply to individuals who are eligible for Medicaid under **Medicaid expansion**.
- ▶ Nebraska currently has ~70K expansion members enrolled in Nebraska Medicaid. Total Medicaid enrollment is currently ~336K.

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Nebraska as the Nation's First Implementer

- ▶ Nebraska launched work requirements on May 1, 2026, the first state in the nation to implement under H.R. 1
- ▶ Most states will follow on January 1, 2027; several others may implement in late 2026
- ▶ CMS published the Interim Final Rule (IFR) on June 3, 2026 codifying the implementation framework Nebraska has been operating under
- ▶ Nebraska's early experience is informing federal guidance and serving as a model for other states

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Medicaid Expansion

- ▶ Medicaid expansion members include adults who:
 - Are aged 19-64
 - Have a low income; defined as up to 138% of the federal poverty level or about \$22,025 per year for one person or \$45,540 for a family of four
 - Are U.S. citizens or meet Medicaid immigration rules
- ▶ Medicaid expansion members cannot be:
 - On Medicare
 - Pregnant
 - Eligible for Medicaid based on a disability

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When Do Work Requirements Begin?

- ▶ Starting May 1, 2026, Nebraska Medicaid began enforcing work requirements for Medicaid members under Medicaid expansion.
- ▶ New applicants:
 - Individuals applying on/after May 1 who are determined eligible in the Medicaid expansion group are subject to work requirements.

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When Do Work Requirements Begin?

► Existing members:

- DHHS will check to see if members meet work requirements as part of their Medicaid renewal. Not everyone renews their Medicaid coverage at the same time.
- Members with renewal dates in May or June 2026 will not have to show they meet work requirements until their renewal in 2027.
 - Expansion members will transition from annual to semi-annual renewals starting in 2027.
- DHHS will first start checking work requirements for members whose coverage periods end on or after July 31, 2026.
- Members can check when their next renewal is by logging into iServe.

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Three Ways To Comply or Be Exempt

- Qualifying Activities
- Exemptions (exclusions and exceptions)
- Temporary Hardships

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Qualifying Activities

- ▶ Activities members and applicants under Medicaid expansion complete to meet work requirements:
- Working
 - Attending school or an apprenticeship
 - Participating in a **work program**
 - Community service / volunteering

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Qualifying Work Program

- ▶ Per the June 2026 IFR, a qualifying “work program” is defined by reference to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008. The five categories are:
 - WIOA Title I Programs – American Job Centers, adult education, vocational rehabilitation, dislocated worker services, and youth programs through Nebraska’s three local workforce development areas
 - Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs – programs under Section 236 of the Trade Act of 1974 for workers affected by foreign trade
 - State-supervised Employment and Training Programs – programs meeting Governor-approved standards, including Nebraska SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) programs
 - Veterans Employment and Training Programs – programs operated by the U.S. Department of Labor or VA and approved by USDA
 - SNAP Workforce Partnerships – workforce partnerships under Section 6(d)(4)(N) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008

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Qualifying Work Program

- ▶ Programs operated solely by health providers or managed care organizations (MCOs) do NOT qualify. The program must be state-operated or state-supervised
- ▶ Job search and job search training can be included as a subsidiary activity within a qualifying work program, as long as it constitutes less than half of the required hours
- ▶ Unemployment insurance job search activities can count if conducted consistently with a qualifying work program's requirements

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Qualifying Activities – 80 Hour Criteria

- ▶ Members and applicants must spend at least 80 hours doing one of the qualifying activities in a qualifying month.
 - Members and applicants can combine hours for any of the qualifying activities to get to 80 hours during a qualifying month. For example, 40 hours volunteering and 40 hours participating in an approved work program.
- ▶ Members and applicants can also meet work requirements by attending school or an apprenticeship at least half time.
 - Individuals attending less than half time can combine the equivalent hours with other qualifying activities.

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Qualifying Activity – Income Criteria

- ▶ Members and applicants can also work and earn the federal minimum income threshold in a qualifying month.
 - Medicaid will use the household income, which may be different than the individual income.
 - Equivalent of 80 hours worked at the current federal minimum wage (currently \$7.25/hour) or approximately \$580/month.
 - Seasonal workers can have an average monthly income equal to the federal minimum income threshold (\$580) over a six-month period.

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Exemptions (exclusions and exceptions)

➤ Some members and applicants may not need to complete work requirements if they meet one of the following exemptions:

- People under age 26 who aged out of foster care
- People who are members of recognized Native American tribes
- Parents, caretakers, or guardians of children up to age 13 or of an individual with disabilities
- Veterans with a total disability rating
- People who are medically frail or have special medical needs, including:
 - Blindness or disability
 - Substance use disorder
 - Disabling mental disorder
 - Or other significant physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities
 - Serious or complex medical condition
- People compliant with work requirements under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Members of households that receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and are not exempt from a work requirement
- People who are participating in a drug addiction or alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program
- People who are incarcerated or have been incarcerated within the last 90 days
- Women who are pregnant or up to 12 months after the end of pregnancy

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SNAP and TANF Exemptions

- ▶ SNAP household members are treated as “specified excluded individuals”; they do not need to demonstrate compliance with Medicaid work requirements if they are in a SNAP household AND are not exempt from SNAP work requirements
- ▶ The State does not need to verify that the individual is actually compliant with SNAP, only that they are subject to SNAP work requirements
- ▶ The TANF exemption requires demonstrated compliance with TANF work requirements (i.e. enrolled in Employment First)

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SNAP and Medicaid Work Requirements – Overlap, Alignment, and Opportunity

- Approximately 30% of Nebraska Medicaid expansion members are also enrolled in SNAP
- Where the Programs Align:
 - both now use “under age 14” dependent child threshold;
 - both use the same statutory definition of qualifying work programs (Food and Nutrition Act);
 - SNAP E&T job search allowance standard adopted for Medicaid
- Dual-Purpose Referral Opportunity
 - SNAP E&T programs are explicitly qualifying work programs under both SNAP and Medicaid
 - Nebraska SNAP E&T participants can simultaneously satisfy Medicaid compliance by meeting the 80-hour threshold
- NDOL and DHHS are collaborating on referral opportunities to connect individuals with qualified work program.

Temporary Hardships

- Some members and applicants may not need to complete work requirements if they qualify for one of the following temporary hardships:
- Individuals who were hospitalized or lived in a nursing home.
 - Individuals or a dependent who had to travel outside their community to receive care to treat a serious health condition.
 - Individuals who lived in a county that was under an emergency declaration or in a county with a high unemployment rate.
 - The federal government will define when a county is under an emergency declaration or meets the high unemployment threshold of the lesser of 8% or 1.5 times the national unemployment rate.

Qualifying Month Summary

▶ New Applicants

- The qualifying month is the calendar month before the month they apply for qualifying activities and temporary hardships (e.g., applying May 1 → April qualifying month); OR either the prior or application month for exemptions

▶ Existing Members

- A qualifying month is any one calendar month between their most recent determination or renewal and their next scheduled renewal (e.g., coverage ending July 31, 2026 → compliance in any one month from August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026)
- Starting in 2027, expansion members will complete semi-annual renewals and will need to demonstrate compliance in one month out of each 6-month coverage period
- Members can check their renewal date by logging into iServe

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Completing Work Requirement Reviews

- Nebraska Medicaid will first review information already available to the agency to determine compliance (ex parte review). In many cases, members will not need to provide additional information.
- If more information is needed, members will receive a verification of compliance request and an individual declaration form (IDF); submittable online (iServe), by mail, or phone. Members must respond within 30 days or they may lose coverage.
- Medicaid agencies are required to verify information for the Work qualifying activity (hours or income) using primary source documents (e.g., pay stubs, income records). All other activities, exemptions, and hardships use the IDF self-declaration process.
- Noncompliance results in two possible notice reasons: *Failure to provide Med Work Requirement compliance* or *Failure to meet Medicaid Work Requirements*

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Completing Work Requirement Reviews

- The IDF collects identifying information (e.g., organization name, address, contact information, medical provider information). Members are not required to provide supporting documentation (e.g., health records) with the IDF; declared information is provided under penalty of perjury
- Once a member or applicant meets work requirements, they will not be reviewed again for work requirement compliance until their next renewal review
- County-based temporary hardships will be determined by government data, not individual declaration; applicants and members do not need to prove emergency declarations or high unemployment conditions on their own
- Verification requirements will evolve as data sources become available and based on federal regulations or CMS guidance

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Member Outreach

- ▶ In December 2025, Nebraska Medicaid sent a notice by mail to everyone enrolled in Nebraska Medicaid through Medicaid expansion. Nebraska Medicaid also sent follow-up texts and emails to individuals who identified an electronic notice preference.
 - Nebraska Medicaid continued to send notices to anyone who became newly eligible in the Medicaid expansion group through April 2026.
- ▶ In April, DHHS began running public service announcements (PSAs), and in May began a Social Media campaign.

Additional Resources

- ▶ FAQs and Website are published and include the following resources resources.
 - Educational videos.
 - Samples of the screening questions, verification of compliance, and IDF.
 - Medically frail and SUD treatment program information.
- ▶ DHHS is incorporating referrals to job assistance and training, education, and community service resources for Medicaid expansion members.

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Work Requirements Web Page

Nebraska Medicaid Work Requirements:
<https://dhhs.ne.gov/WorkRequirements>

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Thank You!

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Building Nebraska's Future Workforce: A Statewide Landscape Assessment

<https://dol.nebraska.gov/Home/Resources>

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Connections.

Executive Order No. 25-15

Signed by Governor Pillen on 10/14/25



STATE of NEBRASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LINCOLN
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-15

Nebraska State Office of Registered Apprenticeship

WHEREAS, Article IV-6 of the Nebraska State Constitution charges the Governor to take care that Nebraska's laws be faithfully executed, and the affairs of the state be efficiently and economically administered; and

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-401 authorizes the Governor, through the Nebraska Department of Labor, to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of wage earners, improve working conditions, and advance opportunities for profitable employment; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States issued a Presidential executive order on April 23, 2025, entitled "Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future" instructing the Secretaries of Labor, Commerce and Education to review all federal workforce development programs and develop a strategy to integrate systems and realign resources to address critical workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2025, the United States Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Education jointly released a comprehensive plan entitled "America's Talent Strategy: Building the Workforce for the Golden Age" which addresses the workforce needs of American companies, integrates existing workforce systems to maximize efficiency and effectiveness, and provides accountability for workforce training programs; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska administers numerous workforce development programs across multiple agencies and partners, yet lacks a unified strategic framework to guide policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this administration to ensure that Nebraska's workforce development efforts are informed, efficient, and effective in achieving their desired outcomes, and are aligned with Nebraska's changing workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska recognizes that growing the state depends on having a well-trained, educated workforce which requires creating meaningful career opportunities so that all Nebraskans, including our youth, can thrive and live the good life through clear pathways to successful careers; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska recognizes apprenticeship programs contribute significantly to workforce development and the expansion of registered apprenticeships in the state aligns with Nebraska's changing workforce needs by supporting future economic growth and ensuring all Nebraskans have access to training and great careers.

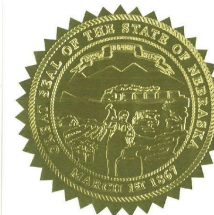
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Pillen, Governor of the State of Nebraska, under and pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nebraska, do hereby order and direct the following that, to the fullest extent permitted by law:

1. The Nebraska Department of Labor to launch the Good Life, Great Careers Initiative. The Good Life, Great Careers Initiative should be focused on developing a quality, skilled workforce in Nebraska.
2. The Good Life, Great Careers Initiative shall focus on connecting Nebraskans to Nebraska careers. Workforce development grants awarded by the Commissioner of Labor under LB265 shall align with the priorities of the Good Life, Great Careers Initiative.
3. As part of the Good Life, Great Careers Initiative, the Nebraska Department of Labor shall create the Office of Registered Apprenticeship. The Office of Registered Apprenticeship shall be integrated into the Nebraska Department of Labor, which shall serve as the State's coordinating body for all matters related to registered apprenticeship programs within the State of Nebraska.
4. The Office of Registered Apprenticeship shall:
 - Develop and expand registered apprenticeship programs to align with the State of Nebraska's workforce needs, with a primary focus on manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, construction, the bioeconomy, and other high-demand industries.
 - Take any and all steps necessary to be recognized by the United States Department of Labor to become a State Apprenticeship Agency.
 - Prepare and submit to the United States Department of Labor an application for recognizing the State of Nebraska as a State Apprenticeship Agency.
 - Coordinate with existing workforce partners under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to integrate apprenticeship programs as a core workforce development strategy.
5. The Good Life, Great Careers Initiative shall aim to add 6,000 new registered active apprentices in Nebraska by December 31, 2030.
6. As part of the Good Life, Great Careers Initiative, the Nebraska Department of Labor shall lead a comprehensive inventory and assessment of workforce development programs administered by the State of Nebraska and, in coordination with this office shall develop a comprehensive, strategic workforce development plan that addresses Nebraska's critical workforce needs and supports future economic growth for the state.
7. To the fullest extent of the law, all departments and agencies of the state shall cooperate with the Nebraska Department of Labor and the Office of Registered Apprenticeship in advancing registered apprenticeship programs and the State of Nebraska's transition to a State Apprenticeship Agency state. All departments and agencies of the state shall further cooperate with the Nebraska Department of Labor in their inventory, review, and assessment of Nebraska's various workforce development programs.

8. If any provision of this Order, or the application of any provision to any individual or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order and the application of its other provisions to any other individuals or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

I HEREBY DECLARE this Executive Order to take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed on this 14 day of October, 2025.



Attest:


Jim Pillen, Governor
State of Nebraska


Robert Evmen, Secretary of State
State of Nebraska

Key directives of the EO include:

- Create the Office of Registered Apprenticeship within the Nebraska Department of Labor to coordinate all state-wide registered apprenticeship programs (p. 2).
- Focus on high-demand industries such as manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, construction, and the bioeconomy (p. 2).
- Lead a comprehensive inventory and assessment of existing workforce development programs administered by the state to develop a strategic plan (p. 2).
- Goal to add 6,000 new registered active apprentices in Nebraska by December 31, 2030 (p. 2).



Comprehensive Inventory



- Developed and executed a comprehensive workforce program inventory across state agencies and public post-secondary institutions
- Requested and compiled detailed workforce program information, including program names, goals, performance metrics, and funding.
- Mapped workforce programs to create a clear, organized view of existing programs and initiatives

Workforce Ecosystem Mapping

- **7 Ecosystem Maps**
 - Code Agencies
 - Non-Code Agencies/Post-secondary Institutions
 - 6 Regions, One Nebraska
 - University System
 - State College System
 - Community Colleges
 - Tribal Colleges

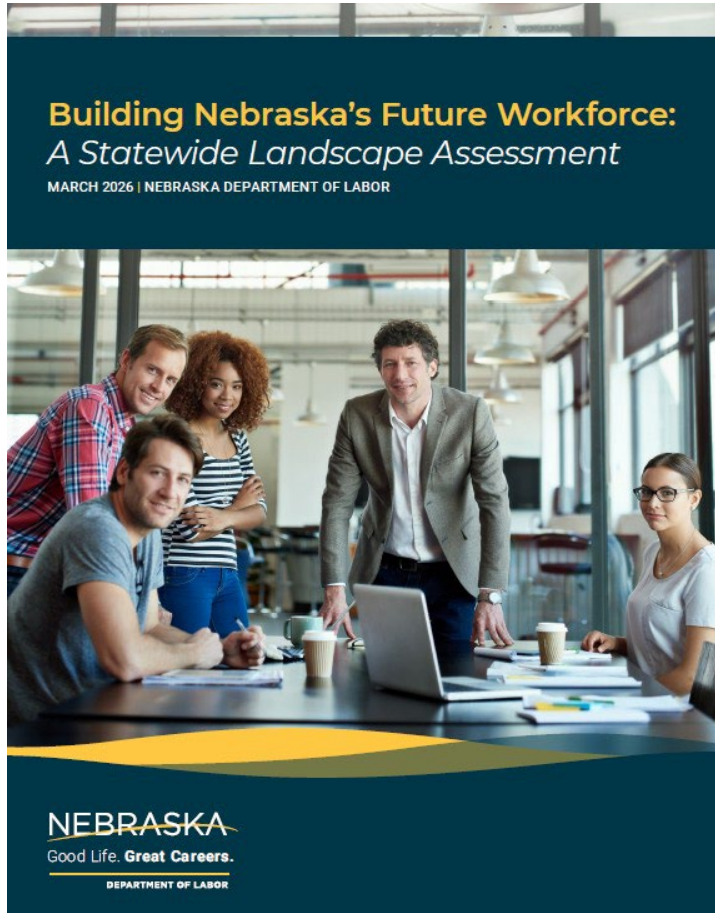


State of Workforce Development Survey



- Distributed to 34,692 Nebraska employers; 4,001 responses
- 45% of employers are unfamiliar with Registered Apprenticeships;
- 46.5% have never used them, with nearly 60% citing "not relevant to my business" (an awareness gap, not a cost barrier)
- Only 7.3% recruit through NEworks vs. 50.4% via commercial job boards like LinkedIn/Indeed
- 70.4% of employers don't partner with any educational institution for hiring
- 52% of businesses report no current AI use or near-term plans

Assessment Report



- Nebraska leads the nation in labor force participation
- The workforce system is extensive but fragmented across many agencies, creating navigation challenges for employers and individuals
- A strong education pipeline is producing graduates aligned with high-demand fields
- Workforce needs vary across Nebraska
- Labor demand remains high in several priority sectors
- Registered Apprenticeships offer untapped potential

Where to find:

<https://dol.nebraska.gov/Home/Resources>

Implications for Workforce Strategy

- Improve coordination between agencies with shared data, while preserving regional flexibility
- Expand apprenticeship awareness through targeted outreach, especially to small and mid-sized employers
- Strengthen employer-education partnerships to align training with real demand
- Use regional labor market data to tailor strategies — one-size-fits-all won't serve rural and urban Nebraska equally
- Build AI skills and management training now, before we fall behind on a national level
- Design outreach with small businesses (under 25 employees) as the primary audience — the least connected, but the majority of Nebraska's employer base



NeMAC & the Nebraska Manufacturing Alliance Credentials

Nebraska Workforce Development Board – June 12, 2026

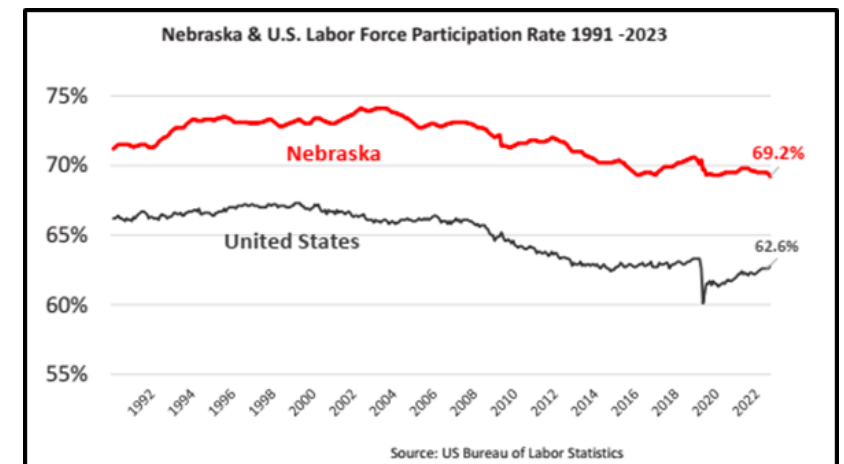
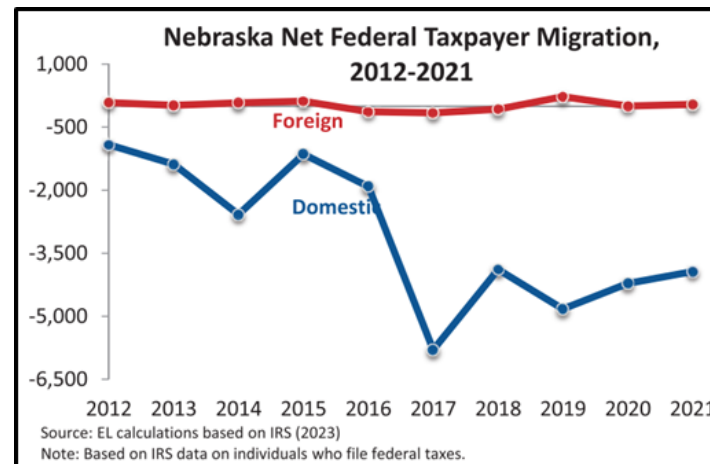
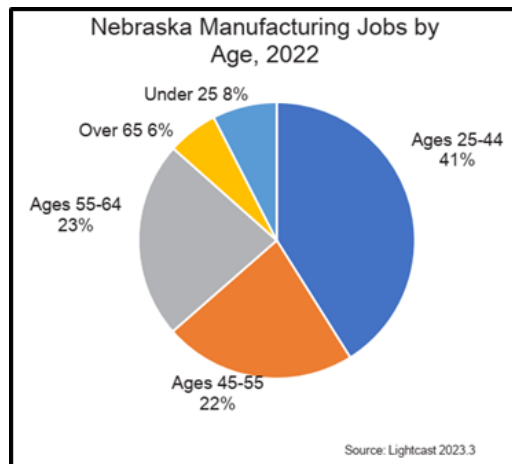
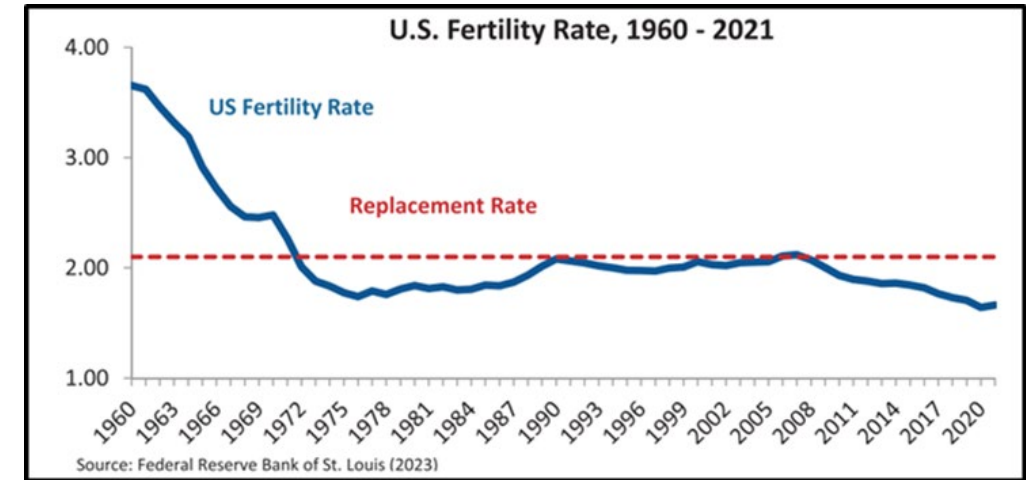
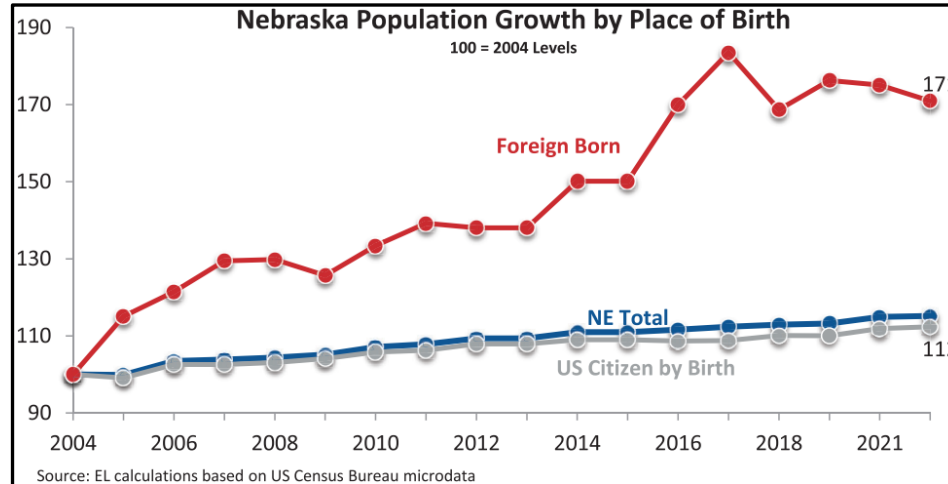
What is NeMAC?

- **Nebraska Manufacturing Advisory Council (NeMAC)** is an industry-driven advocate and advisory council to Nebraska agencies and leaders in maximizing global competitiveness in manufacturing. The council provides a forum for discussing industry-related problems and resolutions and serves as a voice for manufacturers to strengthen Nebraska's 2nd largest economic driver.
- In partnership with the Nebraska Departments of **Economic Development** and **Education and Labor**, we work to enhance programs and communications strategies that attract students and prepare them for careers in modern manufacturing. We also support efforts to expand the reputation of manufacturing in Nebraska and promote policies that help this critical sector stay competitive and growing.

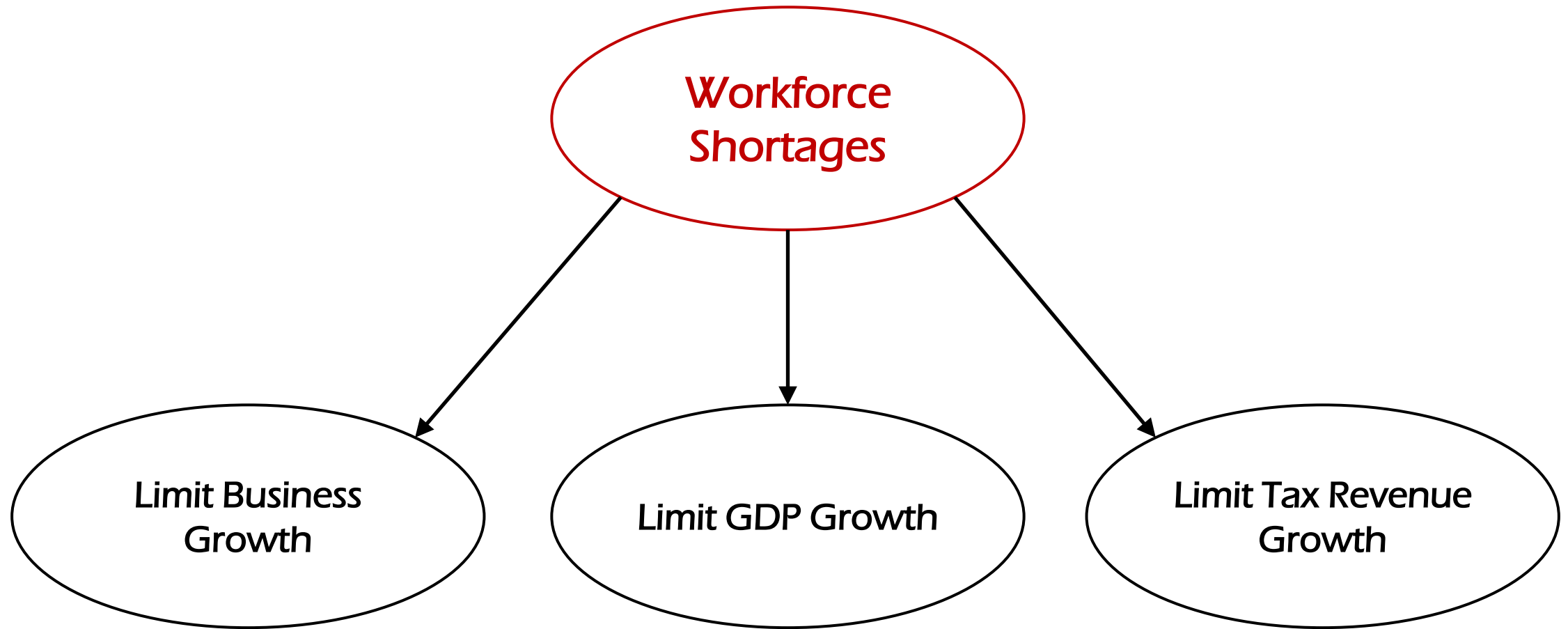
2024 Nebraska GDP by Industry

Industry	GDP (Annualized)	% Contribution to GDP
Finance and Insurance	\$25.2 Billion	13%
Manufacturing	\$21.8 Billion	12%
Government and Government Enterprises	\$20.7 Billion	11%
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	\$17.2 Billion	9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$14.0 Billion	7%
Transportation and Warehousing	\$12.0 Billion	6%
Wholesale Trade	\$11.8 Billion	6%
Retail Trade	\$9.9 Billion	5%
Construction	\$8.9 Billion	5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	\$8.6 Billion	5%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	\$8.5 Billion	4%
Information Services, Publishing, and Broadcasting	\$5.7 Billion	3%
Administrative, Support, Waste Management, and Remediation Services	\$5.2 Billion	3%
Accommodations and Food Services	\$4.5 Billion	2%
Other Services	\$4.0 Billion	2%
Utilities	\$3.9 Billion	2%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	\$3.9 Billion	2%

Nebraska Chamber Foundation Workforce Study



Nebraska's Workforce Problem



Nebraska Manufacturing Credential

- Examined best practices in other industries.
- Created core competencies for Manufacturing in Nebraska.
- Followed Six Regions-One Nebraska model.
- This engage all Community Colleges and allow for local regional effort with a consistent statewide curriculum.
- Three Major Pathways:
 - Adult Learning
 - Immigrants/Refugees
 - High School/Middle School



Taking on the Challenge

- Nebraska Manufacturing Credential
 - Developed with NeMAC leadership
 - Aligned with Nebraska's industry expectations
 - Followed the DACUM process
 - Conducted industry job shadowing to align curriculum with workplace reality
 - Strengthens pathways to high demand careers

Nebraska Manufacturing Credential

- Module 1- Workplace Safety and OSHA Concepts
- Module 2- Quality Control and Defect Identification
- Module 3- Daily Readiness and Personal Responsibility
- Module 4- Introduction to Manufacturing Metrics
- Module 5- Tool Use, Gauging, Basic Metrics and Print Reading
- Module 6- Workplace Communication and Teamwork
- Module 7- Problem Solving and Critical Thinking
- Module 8- Foundations of Lean Manufacturing

Nebraska Manufacturing Alliance Credential – Level 1

Build Job-Ready Skills for Modern Manufacturing

Industry-Recognized • Hands-On • Nebraska-Focused

- Tuition Covered (Estimated value: \$2,000+)
- Stipends available for successful completion of all 8 modules

Train for a future-ready career pathway in manufacturing.

Build skills employers value—and prepare for H3 careers (High-Wage, High-Skill, High-Demand) and Registered Apprenticeship opportunities (where available).

Who It's For

- Individuals exploring manufacturing careers
- New hires and entry-level manufacturing workers
- Career changers and adult learners
- Employers developing a skilled workforce

What You Get / Unlock

- **Nebraska Manufacturing Alliance Credential – Level 1**
- **Transferable, stackable credentials** toward advanced training
- **A career pathway with upward mobility**
- **A quicker path toward higher-paying opportunities** over time
- **Connections to manufacturing** locally and statewide
- **Hands-on, value-added learning** aligned to industry expectations

How the Training Works

- Hands-on, applied learning
- Real-world manufacturing scenarios
- Short, focused modules
- Practical assessments aligned to industry expectations

Prepares you for roles such as:

- Manufacturing Technician
- Production Operator
- Quality or Safety Support Roles
- Entry-Level Advanced Manufacturing Positions



This training program is supported in part through charitable funding from Collins Aerospace, an RTX Business, and grant support from the Nebraska Department of Labor.

8 Job-Ready Skill Modules

- **Workplace Safety & OSHA Concepts**
- **Quality Control & Defect Identification**
- **Daily Readiness & Personal Responsibility**
- **Introduction to Manufacturing Metrics**
- **Tool Use, Gauging, Basic Metrics, & Blueprint Reading**
- **Workplace Communication & Teamwork**
- **Problem-Solving & Critical Thinking**
- **Foundation of Lean Manufacturing**

TRAINING DATES & LOCATION

March 3-June 25, 2026

Tues., Wed., & Thurs.
5:30-8:30 p.m.
The Career Academy at
Southeast Community College,
8800 O St., Room 107

Apply Today



Or use this link:
<https://pxllnk.co/nema1capp>

For more information, contact
Amy Chesley at 402-437-2711 or
achesley@sesthus.edu.

CE-0027 (1/2026)



Program Aligns to
Nebraska Manufacturing
Alliance Credential Level 1

Industry-Recognized. Hands-On. Nebraska-Focused.

- Tuition covered (estimated value: \$2,000+)
- Stipends available upon successful completion of all 8 modules

Train for a future-ready career pathway in manufacturing

Build in-demand skills for high-wage, high-growth careers. Get hands-on training with modern equipment and graduate ready to excel in today's evolving workforce.

Who It's For

- Anyone exploring manufacturing careers
- New hires / Entry-level manufacturing workers
- Career changers and adult learners
- Employers building a skilled manufacturing workforce

How the Training Works

This program is built with a blend of theory and hands-on, applied learning that mirrors real manufacturing environments. Students work through short, focused modules using real-world scenarios and demonstrate what they've learned through practical assessments aligned with industry expectations.

Get What You Need to Move Your Manufacturing Career Forward

- Training aligned with the Nebraska Manufacturing Alliance Bronze Credential.
- A transferable, stackable credential you can build on with advanced training.
- Job-ready skills in core areas of industrial production, including workplace safety, materials and processes, blueprint reading, precision measurement, quality practices, equipment operation, and effective communication and teamwork.
- Connections to manufacturing employers across Nebraska.
- Preparation for roles such as: Production Technician, Machine Operator, Quality Technician, Material Handler, and other industrial manufacturing positions in Northeast Nebraska's growing workforce.

Training Dates and Location

Coming Summer
2026 at the iHub.

707 West Norfolk Ave
Norfolk, NE

For More Information

Erin Sharpe / 402-844-7224
esorensen@northeast.edu

8 Job-Ready Skill Modules

- 1 / Workplace Safety and OSHA Concepts
- 2 / Quality Control and Defect Identification
- 3 / Daily Readiness and Personal Responsibility
- 4 / Introduction to Manufacturing Metrics
- 5 / Tool Use, Gauging, Basic Metrics and Blueprint Reading
- 6 / Workplace Communication and Teamwork
- 7 / Problem-Solving and Critical Thinking
- 8 / Foundations of Lean Manufacturing



Nebraska Manufacturing Credential Level 1

Current Results:

- 4 Community Colleges have completed or have began 1 or 2 cohorts (Metro, Southeast, Central, Northeast)
- An estimated 40+ people earning credentials by Fall 2026
- Level 2 Apprenticeship Pilot will be launching in Fall 2026
- Full time jobs are the expected outcome
- All 6 Community Colleges are participating.
- NE Dept of Ed is working on launch process for Level 1 Credential to be earned in your classrooms.

Nebraska Manufacturing Credential Level 2

- Tied to apprenticeship (NDOL Office of Apprenticeships/Community College Apprenticeship Offices)
 - State-wide pathway to advanced manufacturing careers
 - Customized to meet individual needs
- Pathways technology/automation driven
- Both Kawasaki and Collins Aerospace are deploying apprenticeship

Questions?

Contact



Doug Rood

Senior Operations Manager

O: +1 402.362.8233

C: +1 779.970.1760

Douglas.Rood@collinsaerospace.com

Connect with me on LinkedIn



Good Life, Great Careers Registered Apprenticeship Updates

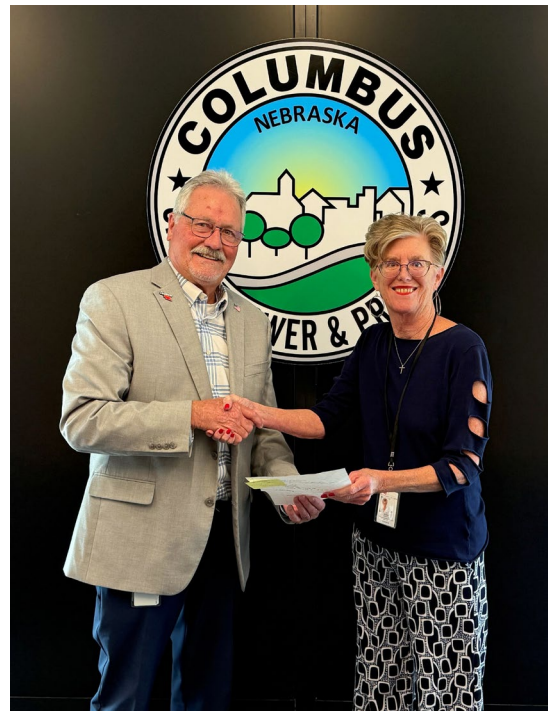


NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Connections.

National Apprenticeship Week A Success

- More than 35 events statewide – a record for Nebraska!



NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Connections.



Apprenticeship Numbers

- Active Apprentices – 4,882
- Active Sponsors – 116
- Active Employers – 527
- Active Occupations – 98
- Newly Added Apprentices since “Good Life, Great Careers” EO – 686

LB 847 – Nebraska Registered Apprenticeship Act



- Introduced by Senator Kauth January 8, 2026
- Passed April 1, 2026
- Governor Pillen Signed April 7, 2026

Current Model – Office of Apprenticeship

USDOL

- Maintains all records
- Ensures programs are active, compliant, and up-to-date
- Determines ratios
- Provides technical assistance

NDOL

- Provides outreach and education to employers
- Assist in program creation
- Intermediary between Nebraska employers/partners and USDOL

New Model: State Apprenticeship Agency

USDOL

- Provide technical assistance to NDOL

NDOL

- Responsible for program creation
- Maintain all records
- Ensure programs are active, compliant, and up-to-date
- Determine ratios
- Provide technical assistance
- Conduct outreach and education

What is NOT changing

- Existing Programs do not need to re-register.
- Nebraska will still use RAPIDS (Registered Apprenticeship Partners Information Database System)

Why is this better for Nebraska?

- Better workforce alignment/prioritization
- Faster responses to employer and workforce needs in Nebraska
- Stronger connections with partners such as other State Agencies and Education Providers
- Ability to target industries lacking skilled labor to create pipelines for talent

Nebraska Apprenticeship Council

- Required by Federal Statute
- Appointed by Governor for terms of 3 years
- 5 voting members
- Equal representation of employer organizations and employee organizations
- Representation of both small and large apprenticeship programs

Nebraska Apprenticeship Council

- Duties include:
- Advise the Nebraska Office of Registered Apprenticeship
- Provide community outreach and education regarding the benefits of Registered Apprenticeship

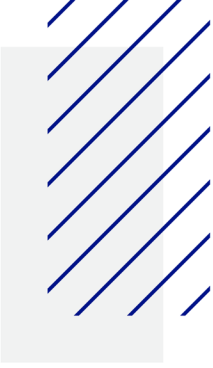
What's Next?

- NDOL will apply for SAA recognition from USDOL
- Once approved, NDOL will act as the State Apprenticeship Agency

Workplace Adult Education and Literacy

WIOA Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy





Overview

Workplace adult education and literacy activities are:

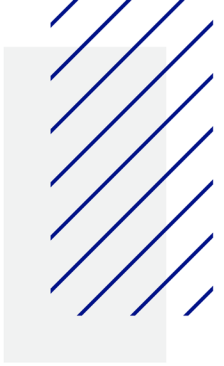
- Collaborative instructional programs developed with employers or employee organizations
- Delivered at the workplace or off-site location
- Designed to improve workforce productivity by strengthening essential adult education and literacy skills

WIOA Section 203(16)



Program Features

- Employer-driven and customized to align with specific organizational goals and workforce needs
- Delivered by experienced, dedicated, and professionally trained instructors
- Flexible delivery options, including short-term or long-term classes, offered on-site or off-site
- Emphasis on practical skills that enhance communication, safety, and job performance
- Contextualized adult education instruction



Contextualized Adult Education Instruction

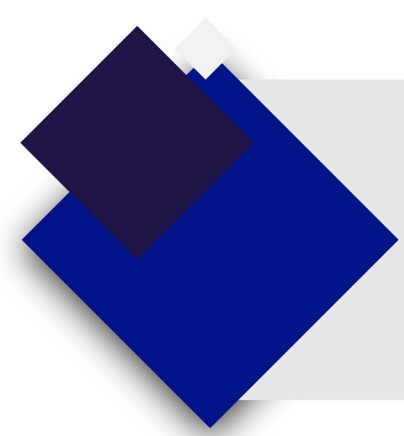
Instruction is customized to employee roles and workplace needs, including:

- Foundational skills aligned to employee proficiency levels
- Industry-specific terminology and job concepts
- Digital literacy and workplace technology skills
- Safety procedures and emergency response training
- Workplace expectations, culture, and advancement pathways
- HR systems and employee benefits awareness

Why It Matters



A skilled workforce is
safer, more efficient,
and more engaged.



Benefits for Businesses

By offering workplace literacy classes, businesses can:

- Build employee confidence and strengthen communication
- Improve collaboration and teamwork
- Promote a safer work environment and reduce risk
- Increase operational efficiency
- Lower turnover while improving job satisfaction
- Create pathways for advancement and career development



Building Effective Employer Partnerships

- Identify workforce skill gaps and training priorities
 - Collaborate with employers to align instruction with workplace needs
 - Establish measurable goals and employee learning outcomes
 - Leverage adult education resources and instructional support to strengthen employee skills and workplace success
- 

Adult Education and Labor Partnership

- Partnership with Nebraska Department of Labor Business Service Representatives
- Serving businesses and communities across the entire state of Nebraska
- Connecting employers with customized workplace adult education and literacy training
- Strengthening partnerships between education, workforce, and industry

WIOA Title II Adult Education Providers

- Central Community College
- Crete Public Schools
- Metropolitan Community College
- Mid-Plains Community College
- Northeast Community College
- Southeast Community College
- Western Nebraska Community College



Questions?

nde.adulteducation@nebraska.gov

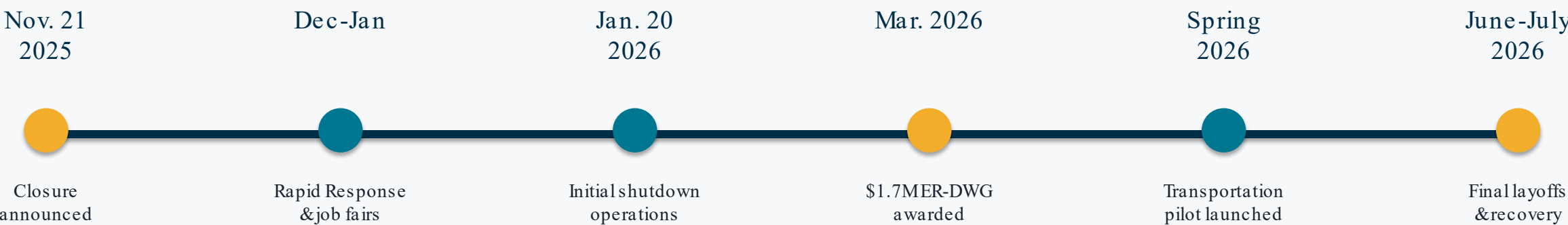
Lexington Tyson Closure Response

When one community was impacted, Nebraska responded.



Response Timeline

From announcement to long-term recovery



The response evolved from immediate stabilization to training, transportation, employer engagement, and long-term workforce recovery.

Tyson Response at a Glance

Key indicators from the statewide response

3,200

workers impacted
Approximate direct impact

740

Rapid Response attendees
Initial sessions

280

NEworks registrations
Completed on-site

75

daily transportation riders
Current average

\$1.7M

ER-DWG award
Awarded March 2026

33 + 10

DWG participants
Enrolled + pending

317

remaining layoffs
June-July 2026

4

languages supported
Spanish, Somali, Arabic, Vietnamese

Preparing Before Workers Arrived

- Rapid Response activated quickly
- Facilities, staff, and partner roles coordinated
- Multilingual outreach and resource materials prepared
- Goal: reduce uncertainty and create clear next steps

Planning began before the first worker walked through the door.





Rapid Response in Action

Workers received

Unemployment Insurance guidance

NEworks registration support

Resume and job search assistance

Training and credential information

Direct employer connections

740

Rapid Response
attendees

280

NEworks registrations

Nebraska Came Together

Student volunteers helped provide trusted translation support throughout the response.

Community-led language access helped workers and families feel welcomed.

Spanish

Somali

Arabic

Vietnamese



Lexington Area Job Transition and Family Assistance Resources

- A hotline is available for Lexington workers needing assistance with programs and services available through Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Labor. The phone number

is **308-407-1517** or
<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/Lexington/>

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Supporting Workers and Families

Response model

NDOL

reemployment, UI support, NEworks, career services

DHHS

iServe, SNAP, Medicaid, family support resources

Community
Partners

hotline, facilities, volunteers, outreach

The response focused on households, not just jobs.

Transportation Pilot

Removing transportation as a barrier to reemployment

75

a verage daily riders

Current average across participating employers

Lexington workforce → North Platte employment corridor



Sustainable Beef

Walmart Distribution Center

Lessons learned: ridership grew after startup adjustments; some workers commute one way and ride back with co-workers due to shift timing.

From Response to Recovery

Emergency Response Dislocated Worker Grant

\$1.7M

ER-DWG award

Awarded March 2026 to support workers affected by the Tyson closure.

Goal: 100 participants

33

participants enrolled

10

additional participants pending

DWG services support a transition from immediate layoff response to credentialing, supportive services, and longer-term career planning.

Career Planning

individualized next steps

Training

CDL, CNA, lab tech, accounting

Supportive Services

mileage, uniforms, books, fees, housing

Work-Based Learning

OJT opportunities

Training in Demand

Central Community College and CDL Academy are helping workers move toward new credentials and career pathways.

CDL

CNA/ Med Aide

Lab Tech

Accounting

OJT

ELL sessions at CCC are at capacity throughout the summer. (edit this wording)

CNA classes are also full for the summer. (Edit this also)

Demand for training is active and immediate.



Employer Engagement & OJT Opportunities

Key finding from outreach

Many employers were unaware former Tyson workers were eligible for OJT opportunities.

- Employer outreach completed by Workforce Coordinators and Program Coordinators
- Lexington Chamber sharing posts with employers and job seekers
- June 15 presentation planned for Lexington employers
- Focus on skilled workers in final layoff phase: welders, mechanics, maintenance



The Work Continues

Upcoming outreach and service events

June 15

Employer OJT Presentation

Lexington Chamber / employer outreach

June 16

Coffee Talk

Inform workers about ER-DWG services

July 9

Rapid Response Event

Support remaining Tyson employees

July

Additional Coffee Chat

Coordinated with Rapid Response

The next phase focuses on DWG enrollment, employer awareness, OJT development, and support for the final workforce transition.

Final Tyson Layoff Phase

Preparing for the remaining workforce transition

June 1, 2026

132

additional layoffs

July 24, 2026

185

final terminations

317

remaining affected workers

Final phase includes high-skill workers such as electricians, mechanics, welders, maintenance, and technical positions.

All listed individuals are expected to receive severance payments.

Lessons Learned

What this response reinforced for the workforce system

Early coordination matters

Partners need to know roles before workers arrive.

Language access matters

Trusted translators improved service access and confidence.

Transportation matters

Employment pathways fail if workers cannot reach work.

Employer outreach matters

OJTs require active employer education.

Training capacity matters

Demand can quickly exceed available seats.

Recovery is long-term

Rapid Response is the start, not the end.

The Team Behind the Response

- NDOL staff
- Community organizations
- Educational institutions
- Employers
- Volunteers
- Local leaders

No single organization could have done this alone.



Looking Ahead

The Tyson closure affected thousands of workers and families.

What followed demonstrated the strength of Nebraska's workforce system.

While the final phase of layoffs is still ahead, the partnerships built through this response continue to create pathways forward.

Nebraska responded - and the work continues.

