

Delaware County Workforce Development Board
Planning Committee
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 @ 1pm
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Agenda

Approve minutes from Wednesday, December 3, 1pm

Review progress towards strategic goals

Open discussion

2026 Planning Committee Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, June 3, 2026 @ 1pm

Wednesday, September 2, 2026 @ 1pm
Wednesday, December 2, 2026 @ 1pm

Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 3, 1pm via Teams

Attendance: Bill Tyson, Edessa Snyder, Colleen Duran, Asma Munir, Kate McGeever (staff)

Approve minutes from the September 3 meeting

Colleen Duran motioned to approve the minutes. Asma Munir seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

PY25 Q1 Progress Toward Strategic Goals

Kate McGeever reviewed the report on the WIOA Local Plan goals

Delaware County's Goals 2025-28: PY25 Q1

Goal 1 Maximize Use of Earn & Learn Models: DCWDB will partner with Career & Technical Education providers and employers to increase the development and use of earn-and-learn models. Focus on employers' needs to develop registered pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, incumbent worker training, and integrated education and training programs. Recruit job seekers and youth who face barriers to employment or identify as part of underrepresented communities. Use supportive services and follow-up to ensure workers thrive in earn-and-learn employment.

- Through the EMS Industry Partnership, DCWDB met with a collective of Delaware County EMS employers who want to address the lack of highly skilled EMS professionals. The group hopes to run a cohort of EMTs from the multiple employers who will be trained to be Advanced EMTs. This will free up the limited Paramedic capacity.

Goal 2 Increase Employer Engagement: DCWDB will continue to increase the quality and quantity of services for employers. Anchor efforts to employers' feedback, labor market information, and partner input to ensure services engage employers. Focus on building relationships with employers in key industry sectors.

- The Business Services Team has collaborated with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to co-host the spring Job Fair on March 30. This partnership has enabled greater reach across different communities of employers and job seekers. Also, employers have the opportunity to learn more about the supports available through OVR.

Goal 3 Reach Tomorrow's Workforce: DCWDB will partner with middle and high schools, post-secondary education and training providers, community-based organizations, chamber of commerce, and employers to develop services that will attract youth and prepare them to thrive in Delaware County's workforce. Reach youth with barriers to employment or those from underrepresented communities to experience work-based learning through summer employment, pre-apprenticeship, Registered Apprenticeship, internships, job shadowing, mentoring, and other experiences in the workplace, including developing employability skills.

- The Business Education Partnership program will partner with DCCC to host a spring career awareness day on the DCCC campus. This collaboration will allow us to serve more schools and host more employers than the 2025 pilot event.

Goal 4 Continuously Improve the PA CareerLink® System: DCWDB will use customer data and feedback to ensure the PA CareerLink® system offers effective, efficient, and comprehensive services. Offer on-site, virtual, and community-based services to engage hard-to-reach job seekers and employers. Engage all PA CareerLink® System core and additional partners to implement an effective referral process to address customers' barriers to success.

- The PA CareerLink® Administration team has been spearheading the use of CWDS to make referrals both inside and outside the PA CareerLink® system. The goal is to collect information on job seekers' barriers to employment through the digital intake, then have those barriers addressed by PA CareerLink® staff. This will require significant collaboration with community-based partners.

Goal 5 Help Vulnerable Job Seekers to Reduce Barriers to Employment: DCWDB will provide a workforce development system that is job seeker-focused. Ensure services are delivered in a manner that is welcoming and supportive to adults and youth who face barriers to employment. Provide or refer to supportive services to address barriers, including criminal background, lack of transportation, food and housing insecurity, lack of high-quality childcare, mental and physical health care, or disability.

- The PA CareerLink® Administration team is working with partners to identify gaps in supportive services available to job seekers. They are actively working to find partners to fill these gaps.

Goal 6 Respond to Critical Labor Market Needs: DCWDB will build relationships with employers in critical industries (including healthcare, manufacturing, public safety, and early childhood/K12 education) to ensure that the PA CareerLink® system is a trusted partner for recruiting, training, and upskilling the workforce. Leverage state and local resources to address workforce shortages. Advocate for policies that minimize disruption to the labor supply.

The PA CareerLink® team is again partnering with PA Labor & Industry's Rapid Response team and our peers in Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia Counties to respond to a mass layoff at Amazon Fresh Grocer. Just under 1,000 workers from the region will be impacted. DCWDB is taking the lead on outreach to workers.