

Delaware County Workforce Development Board
Planning Committee
Wednesday, September 2, 2026 @ 1pm
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Agenda

Approve minutes from June Meeting
Review progress towards strategic goals
WIOA Local Plan Modification Timeline
Open discussion

2026 Planning Committee Meeting Dates:
Wednesday, December 2, 2026 @ 1pm

Delaware County Workforce Development Board
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2026 at 11 am

Attendance: Bill Tyson, Edessa Snyder, Asma Munir, Rick Durante, Kate McGeever (staff)

Approve minutes from the March meeting

Edessa Snyder motioned to approve the minutes. Asma Munir seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

PY25 Q3 Progress Toward Strategic Goals

Kate McGeever reviewed the report on the WIOA Local Plan goals. She highlighted multiple efforts of the business services team, Business Education Partnership grant, and the Rapid Response Team. Bill Tyson inquired which EMS employers were using Industry Partnership funds to upskill their workers. Good Fellowship, Aston Fire Dept., Rocky Run Fire Dept., and Radnor Fire Company have all been approved for support.

Edessa and Rick Durante asked about the Amazon Fresh Rapid Response efforts. The group discussed whether part-time workers (like many Amazon Fresh workers) are able to access unemployment compensation. Asma Munir shared that she had not experienced that, but it is allowed according to the PA Labor & Industry website.

General Comments

Edessa highlighted the opportunity to get local businesses and entrepreneurs in front of the 500,000 visitors who are coming to the region for the FIFA and America 250 events.

June Board Meeting Reminder

Bill reminded the committee members that the full board will meet on June 11 at Penn State Brandywine.

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.

- For PY26, DCWDB will utilize the County's PR department to increase awareness of Incumbent Worker Training funds. Hopefully, increased attention will result in more usage of the Earn & Learn model. Similarly, the Business Service Team will focus on increasing the use of On-the-job training.

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.

- In PY25, DCWDB's Business Services rolled out short, content-rich trainings for employers. These online workshops tackled key topics like unemployment compensation, retention strategies, and hiring best practices. DCWDB will continue to build on these employer-focused efforts during PY26.

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.

- PY25 included many success for youth programs. Over the summer, in-school youth programs had 60 high school graduations and 115 youth work experiences. Out-of-school youth programs had 20 participants achieve credentials (Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Tech, Phlebotomy) and 30 work experiences. Additionally, 52 middle school students attended DCCC's occupational skills summer camps, and 41 children were approved for summer camp through ARPA funds

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.

- In response to reduced funds for PY26, DCWDB held a series of meetings with PA CareerLink® partners to identify areas that could be streamlined to use less resources while maintaining quality services. The two areas selected for refinement are staffing to support walk-in customers

and selection of job seekers for training. We will monitor the impact of these changes and made additional adjustments as necessary.

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.

- DCWDB plans to collaborate with Economic Development and the Foundation for Delaware County to convene a wide array of workforce development providers in Delaware County. As DCWDB adapts to reduced resources, this convening will be an opportunity to share free resources (like online tools and labor market data) and to identify referral partners.

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.