

8. Programs and Service Delivery

A description of how the local board and partners will make available programs and services.

h. How the local board will improve access to activities leading to a recognized postsecondary credential (including a credential that is an industry-recognized certificate or certification, portable, and stackable).

The Pima County local workforce system historically has emphasized education and training activities, which consistently represent about 50% of both enrollees and expenditures across all WIOA Title I programs.

That impact has been amplified by obtaining discretionary grants, and partnering with other entities that have resources for education and training.

For example, the recently completed H1-B and Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator (AMJIA) grants resulted in 391, and 199 participants enrolled in training, respectively, and earning a total of 613 industry-recognized credentials.

The WIB will continue to emphasize, and if possible increase, access to post-secondary training through the following practices:

1. Embed career pathways, long range career planning, and livable wage concepts in all career counseling and career exploration activities.
2. Continue to offer financial assistance for tuition, books and other training related costs for enrolled participants who have completed a training plan for an eligible training provider.
3. Observe and mirror state ETPL policy that limits eligibility to programs that lead to a recognized postsecondary credential (including a credential that is an industry-recognized certificate or certification, portable, and stackable).
4. Partner with programs that provide effective pre-college preparation.
5. Continue support and partnership with College student services to maximize Pell Grant financial aid leveraging and tracking.
6. Pursue discretionary grants to expand available direct financial aid for training.
7. Partner with employers to provide incumbent worker training that leads to recognized credentials.
8. Partner with educational institutions that offer credit for learning that occurred outside of the scope of formal higher education coursework and prior to students' enrollment at the institution, including from military service, job-related training, and volunteer arenas.
9. Partner with educational institutions to develop more seamless transfer pathways to professional degree programs, including for people who have completed certificates and associates of applied science degrees for direct employment.