



New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission

Dennis M. Bone, *Chairman*

Philip D. Murphy, *Governor*

POLICY RESOLUTION: SETC #2020-01

SUBJECT: NJ Combined State Plan for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, 2020

Collaborative Process to Develop the NJ Combined State Plan

The SETC partnered with the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJLWD), and other key stakeholders, to create the NJ Combined State Plan for WIOA, 2020. The foundation of this Combined Plan commenced with Governor Murphy's vision for a stronger and fairer New Jersey. Over the last two years, NJLWD and SETC have established more intentional and regular input and feedback mechanisms with the wide range of stakeholder groups and, where applicable, the associations and organizations that represent them. In building a foundation for this plan, NJLWD and SETC also collaborated with and received input from the Governor's Jobs and Economic Opportunity Council and the NJ Future of Work Task Force, and engaged with partner agencies and groups to inform their plans, such as the NJ Department of Education (NJDOE) Perkins V Plan for Career and Technical Education and the NJ Department of Human Services.

The primary foundation of this Combined State Plan is Governor Murphy's *Jobs NJ: Developing Talent to Grow Business in the Garden State*, which was published in January 2020. Coinciding with its release, the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development, under the auspices of the SETC, conducted eight stakeholder sessions with the purpose to gain insight and input to inform this Combined Plan from across five major stakeholder groups:

- Practitioners of literacy, youth, social services and supports, and disability services
- Local Workforce Development Boards
- Employers and Business Associations
- Education Partners, including state government agencies, community colleges, vocational/technical council, school boards and education associations
- State Partners, including state government agencies, planning authorities, labor and industry organizations and community and faith-based groups

The sessions were focused broadly on the ways in which New Jersey's workforce development ecosystem – including but not limited to the programs included in this Combined Plan – could be aligned and advanced to provide equal access to opportunity for all while supporting the growth of the State's economy. They were anchored in the three strategies outlined in *Jobs NJ*: expand access to opportunity, train individuals for in-demand jobs, and match talent to jobs.

Public Comment Period and Submission

The draft New Jersey Combined State Plan for WIOA, 2020 will be released for Public Comment in March 2020. The Combined State Plan will be submitted to USDOL/USDOE prior to April 1, 2020, with the public comment period completed. Any comments received will be included in the State Plan and updates will be made to the Plan as appropriate. The final State Plan will be posted on the SETC website at www.njsetc.net.

RESOLUTION:

The State Employment and Training Commission hereby resolves to approve the release of the draft NJ Combined State Plan for WIOA, 2020 for public comment, and the subsequent submission of the State Plan 2020, with associated public comments, to the US Departments of Labor and Education by March 31, 2020, as required.

Commission Approval: February 26, 2020