East Polk Industrial Forum

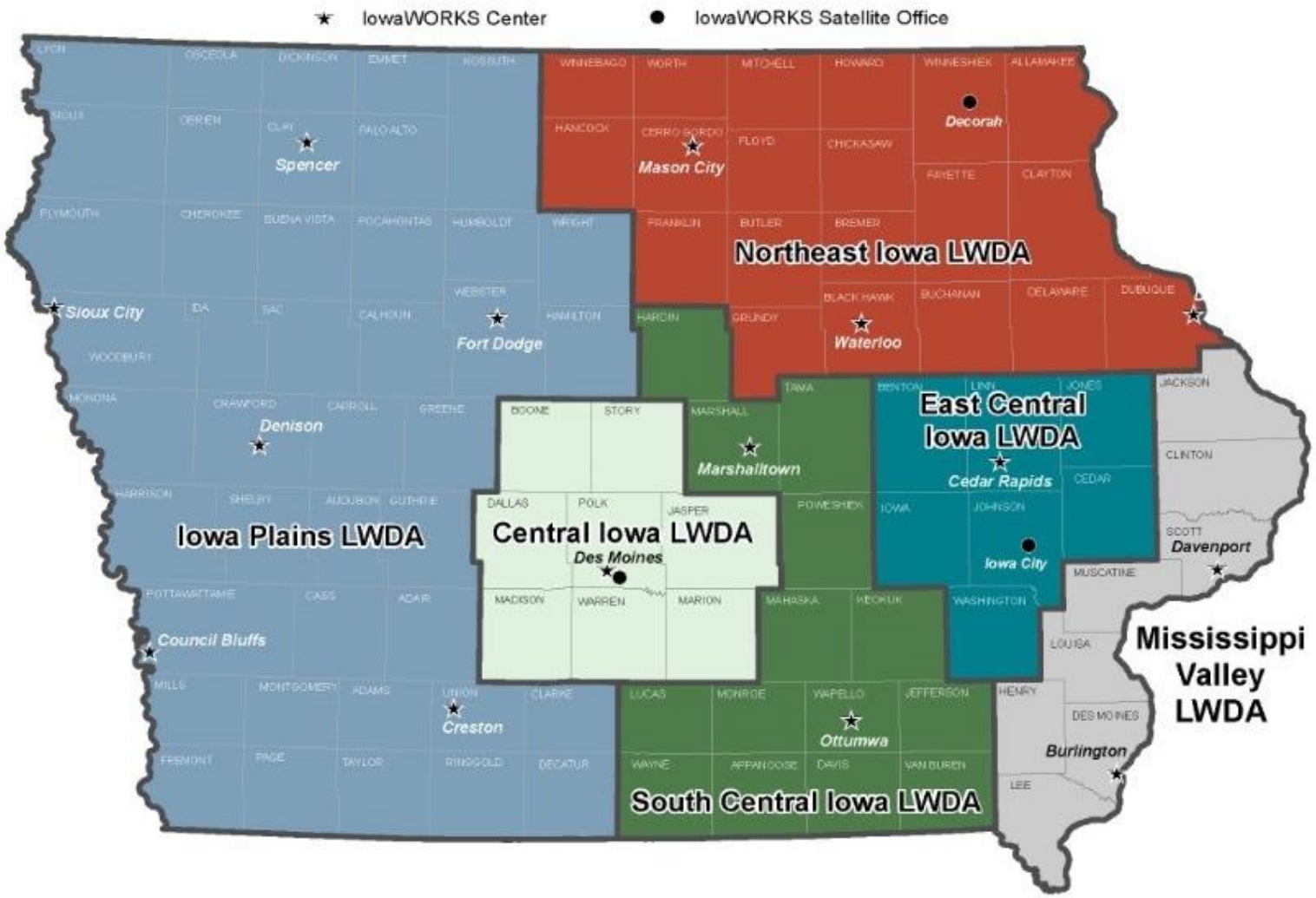


- Eric Kress
- Central Iowa Workforce Development Board
- www.ciwdb.org
- Ekress@midiowaplanning.org

Overview

- Central Iowa Workforce Development Area
- IowaWORKS Services for Job Seekers
- IowaWORKS Business Engagement Division
- Talent Recruitment and Engagement Strategies

Local Workforce Areas



Central Iowa Counties

Polk

Boone

Story

Dallas

Jasper

Madison

Warren

Marion

2026 CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS



LISA HEDDENS

CLEO
STORY COUNTY

ABOUT LISA



ERICH KRETZINGER

SUPERVISOR
BOONE COUNTY

ABOUT ERICH



JULIA HELM

SUPERVISOR
DALLAS COUNTY

ABOUT JULIA



DOUG CUPPLES

SUPERVISOR
JASPER COUNTY

ABOUT DOUG



HEATHER STANCIL

SUPERVISOR
MADISON COUNTY

ABOUT HEATHER



JIM MUELLER

SUPERVISOR
MARION COUNTY

ABOUT JIM



JILL ALTRINGER

SUPERVISOR
POLK COUNTY

ABOUT JILL



STEPHANIE ERICKSON

SUPERVISOR
WARREN COUNTY

ABOUT STEPHANIE

Chief Elected Officials – Design the System by Appointing Board Members



BOARD COMPOSITION



10 +

BUSINESS MEMBERS



4 +

WORKFORCE



3 +

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING



2 =

GOVERNMENT

19 LOCAL MEMBERS

2025 - 2026 LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS

Our 19 board members, appointed by elected officials from the eight counties in the region, bring expertise from business, organized labor, education, community organizations, and the public sector. Together, they work to understand the region's workforce challenges and prioritize programs and funding to address them.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LANA POL
CHAIR
GEETINGS, INC

ABIGAIL MILLER
VICE CHAIR
AGCERTAIN, LLC

AMY LANDAS
SECRETARY
VISION BANK

BOARD MEMBERS

NATALIE BAYSINGER
TRI-CITY ELECTRIC

WILLIAM BERNING
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

MEGAN CRAWFORD
KREG TOOL

VIENNA HOANG
IOWA VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

ERICA SPILLER
DMACC

BRENDA CLOUSE
DALLAS COUNTY HOSPITAL

TOM HAYES
SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA FEDERATION OF LABOR

JEREMY LINDQUIST
LOCAL UNION 33

MARCANNE LYNCH
MAINSTREAM LIVING

PAULA MARTINEZ
AFSCME LOCAL 3013

STACY SIME
LIFESERVE BLOOD CENTER

STACY KILSTOFTE
AMERICAN PACKAGING

LAUREN ROBINS
AGRILAND

MICHELLE SCHOTT
DMACC

JENAE SIKKINK
GREATER DES MOINES PARTNERSHIP

TERI VOS
WORKSMART CONNECTOR

UNDER WIOA, CIWDB HAS 16 RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Maintain a 4-year local plan.
2. Conduct workforce research and regional labor market analysis.
3. Convene, broker, and leverage the workforce development system stakeholders.
4. Lead efforts to engage with a diverse range of employers and other entities in the region.
5. With representatives of education programs, lead efforts to develop and implement career pathways.
6. Lead efforts in the local area to identify and promote proven and promising strategies and initiatives.
7. Develop strategies for using technology to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of the local workforce development system.
8. Conduct oversight of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I programs and the local Iowa*WORKS*.
9. Negotiate and reach an agreement on local performance indicators with the Chief Lead Elected Official and Iowa Workforce Development.
10. Negotiate with the CLEO and required partners on the methods for funding the infrastructure costs of IowaWORKS in Des Moines.
11. Select the service providers in the local area, and where appropriate terminate such providers: Title I Adult and Youth, One Stop Operator.
12. Work with Iowa Workforce Development to ensure there are sufficient numbers and types of providers of career and training services serving the local area.
13. Coordinate activities with education and training providers in the local area.
14. Develop a budget for the activities of the Local Workforce Development Board.
15. Annually assess the physical and programmatic accessibility of the local Iowa*WORKS office*.
16. Certify American Job Centers = IowaWORKS Des Moines office.

CIWDB



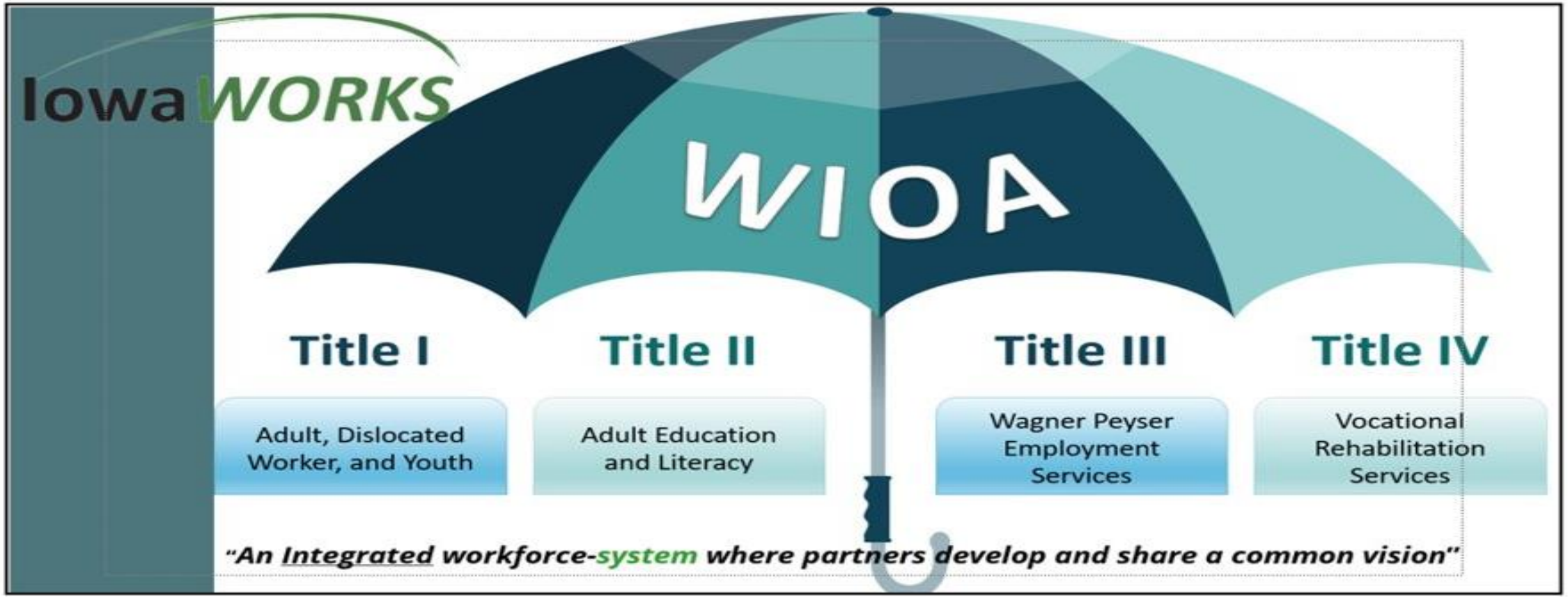
IowaWORKS

Sara Bath

Understanding the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

- The Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) vision seeks to improve job and career options for our nation's workers and job seekers through an integrated, job-driven public workforce system that links diverse talent to businesses.
- Designed to help job seekers access training, education, employment and support services to match with the needs of local employers.
- Establishes a workforce system that is customer-centered; meeting the needs of both the job seekers and employers.
- In Iowa the American Job Centers are the IowaWORKS offices.

An Integrated Workforce-system



Understanding the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

Core Partners:

- Title I – Individualized Case Management for those that face the most significant barriers to employment.
- Title II – Adult Education and Literacy; including High School Equivalency and English Language Acquisition
- Title III – Basic Career Services available to all job seekers
- Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Required Partners:

- Many other programs designed for specific populations.

Services Available to all Job Seekers

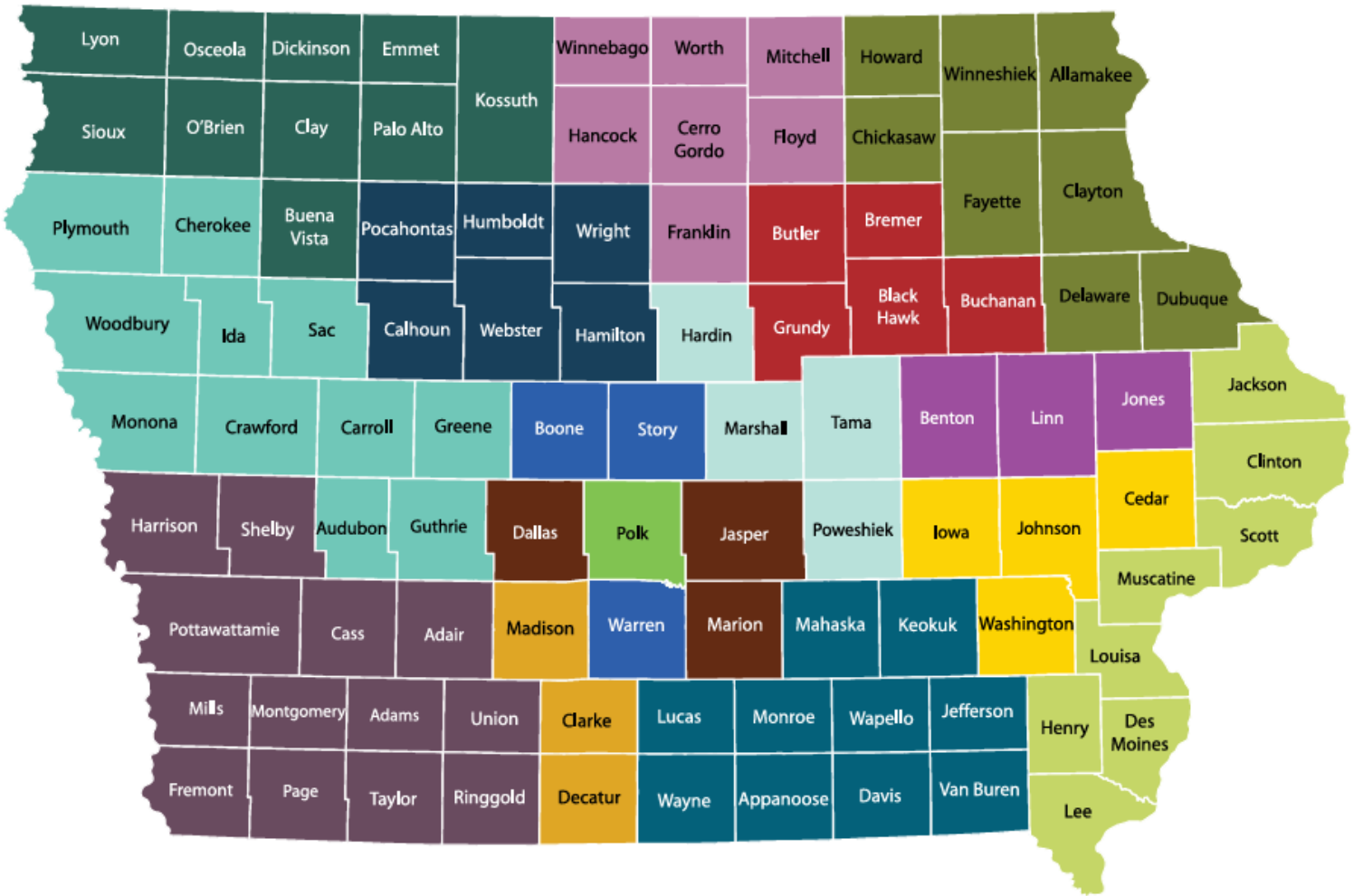
- Job search
- Labor Market Information
- Mock Interviews
- Resume assistance
- And more



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Sara.bath@iwd.iowa.gov
IowaWORKS.gov

IOWA | Iowa Workforce Development

Business Engagement Consultants Map





Chad Pierce
Des Moines

chad.pierce@iwd.iowa.gov
515-777-8002



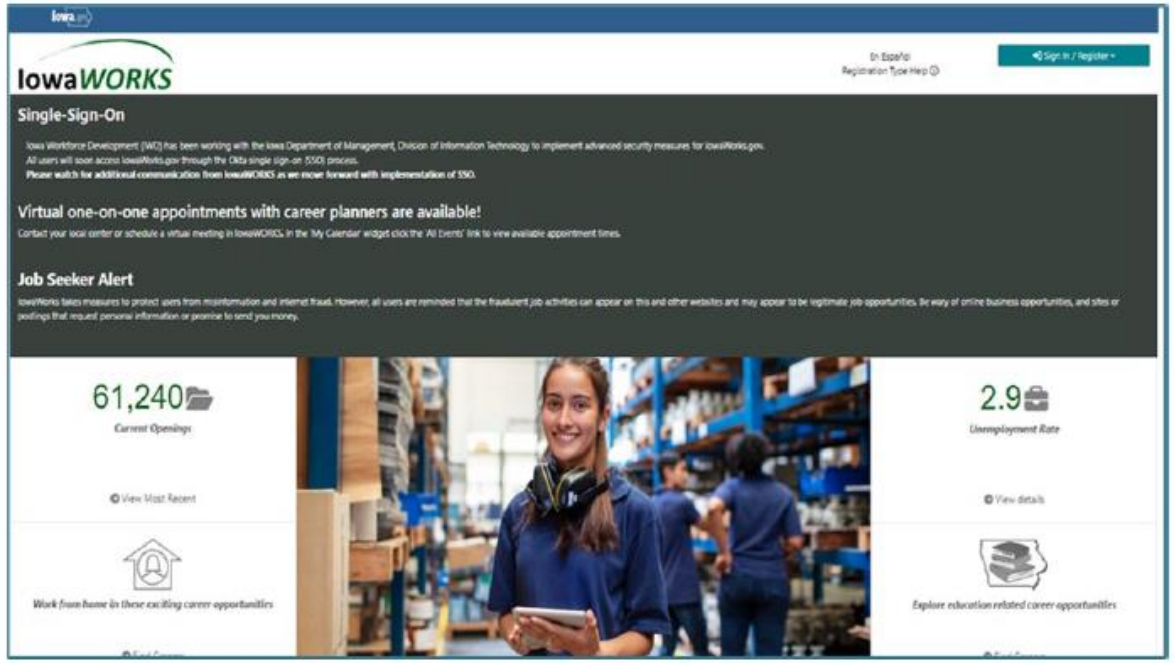
Drew Emerson
Des Moines



Vonnie Stewart-Kai
Des Moines

Employer Resources

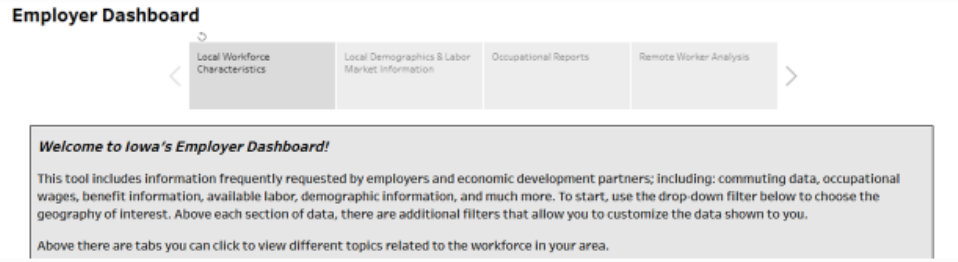
- Recruitment Assistance
- Labor Market Information
- Untapped Talent
- Disability Employment Services
- Short Time Compensation
- Rapid Response

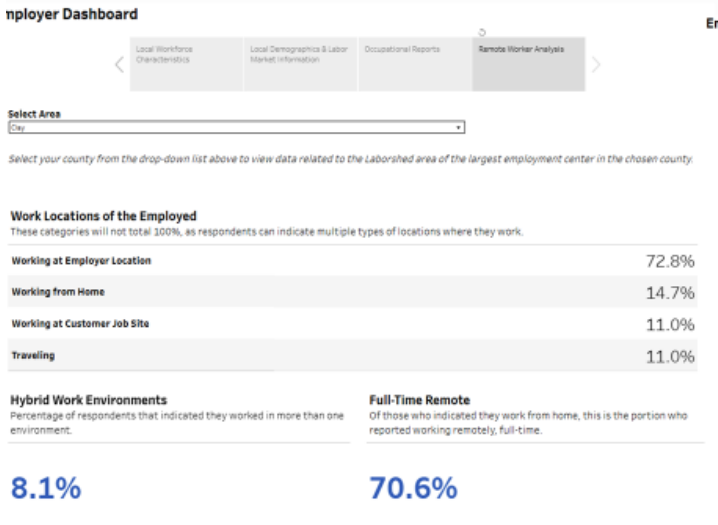


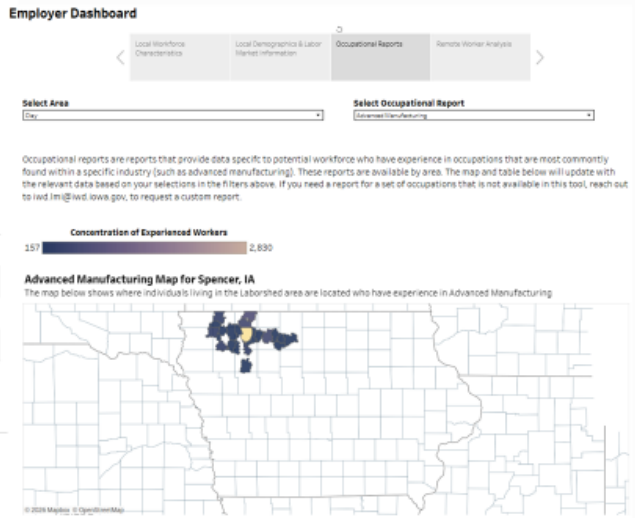
IowaWORKS
A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network

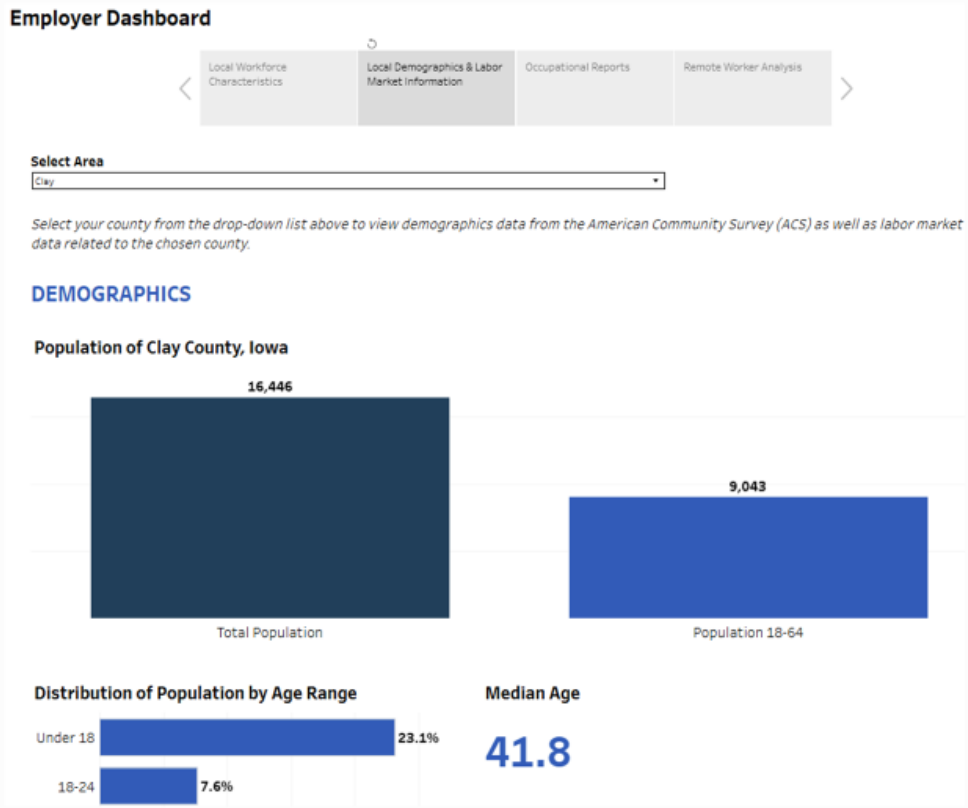
Employer LMI Dashboard

Data Visualization: Iowa's Employer Dashboard | Iowa Workforce Development







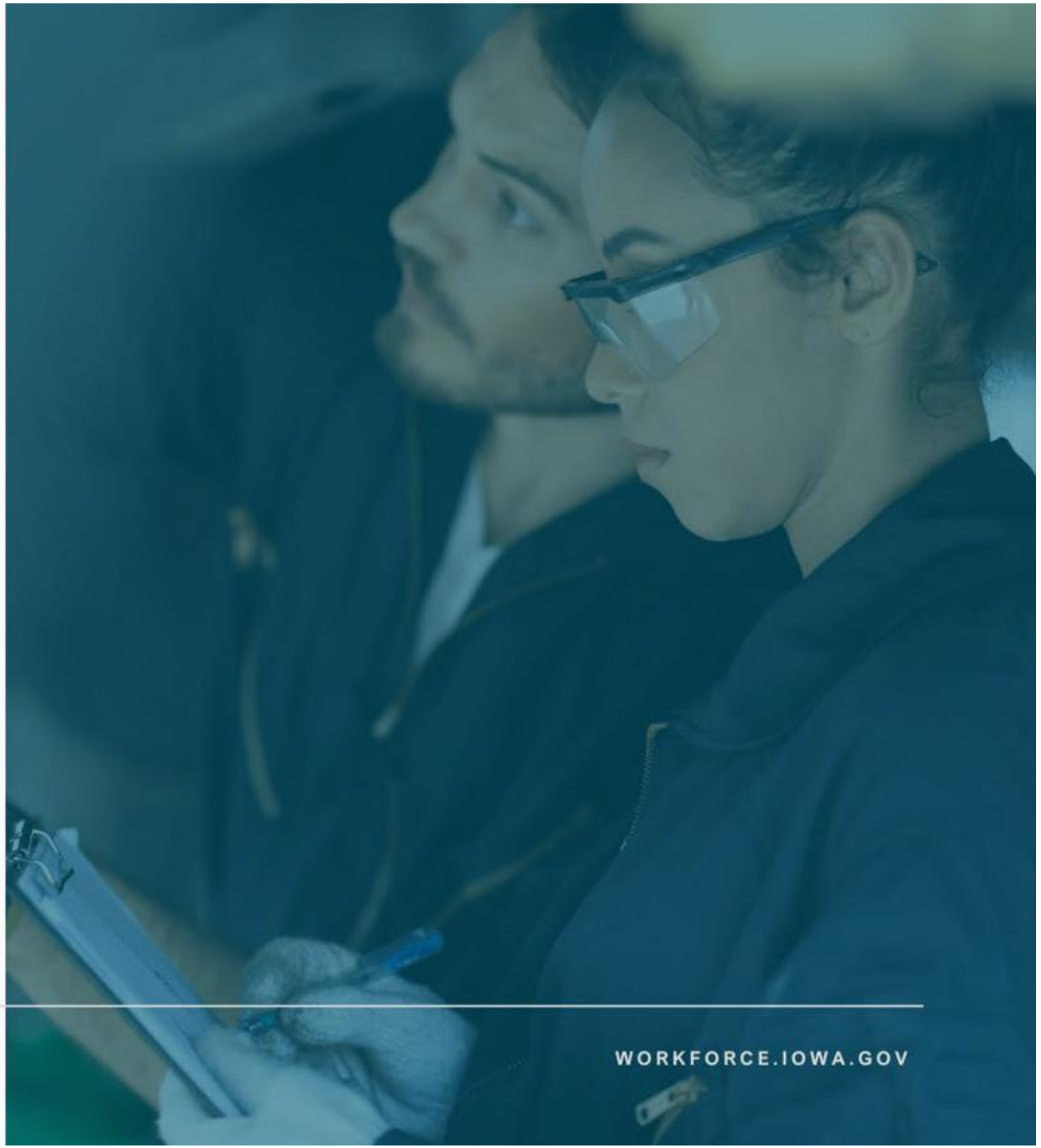


IOWA | Iowa Workforce Development

WORKFORCE.IOWA.GOV

Training Opportunities

- Iowa Jobs Training Program
- Work Based Learning
- Registered Apprenticeship
- Other State and Federal Grants



Current Grants

- **1. Advanced Manufacturing Pathways Development (AMP'D) Iowa**
  - **Focus:** Employer-driven training in advanced manufacturing.
  - **Status:** Applications still accepted as funds allow.
  - **Funding:** $25M total Grantable.
  - **Details:** Supports new or current workers in advanced manufacturing careers workforce.iowa.gov+1.
- **2. Career Training Physical Expansion Grant Program (CTPE)**
  - **Focus:** Expanding capacity for training in high-demand fields at community colleges and apprenticeship programs.
  - **Funding:** $100M total Grantable.
  - **Details:** Helps grow apprenticeship and training programs statewide workforce.iowa.gov+1.
- **3. Registered Apprenticeship Grants**
  - **Focus:** New and existing Registered Apprenticeship (RA) programs in various occupations.
  - **Recent Awards:** $3.4M in 2026 grants workforce.iowa.gov.
  - **Details:** Supports workforce pipeline development across industries workforce.iowa.gov+1.
- **4. Last-Dollar Scholarship**
  - **Focus:** Fills tuition gaps not covered by other federal/state grants.

Identifying Talent: Strategies to Consider

"Skills-based" hiring vs traditional hiring practices

- Veterans
- Credit for lived Experiences
- Foreign trained employees
- Available talent in other industries

Challenge the status quo

- "Second chance" employees and background check requirements, as an example
- On the Job Training strategies
- Use Labor Market Information to ensure you are providing appropriate compensation and understand regional recruiting potential

Work Based Learning

- "Open your doors" to create entry points
- Registered Apprenticeship – funding availability
- Cross Training and upskilling of current employees

Job Seekers with a Disability

- Often need minor and inexpensive accommodations
- Skilled employees; Not defined by their disability
- Strengthens integration strategies for all employees