



2017 Annual Report

Executive Summary

The National Association of Workforce Boards and its members are working to ensure that workforce development remains a national priority. NAWB champions and supports the work of its members by developing advocacy and outreach tools, communicating the latest developments in Washington, and providing best-in-class learning opportunities. The 2017 Annual Report outlines the offerings and outcomes of those services.

Our Members

NAWB is the national voice for Workforce Development Boards, the regional and local business-led organizations that convene and collaborate to reduce unemployment and boost economic development by aligning Federal, State, and local investments in preparing job seekers and connecting employers with a highly-skilled workforce. NAWB helps its members leverage more than \$4 billion in annual federal funding to support worker training initiatives, and supports workforce boards and their partners in implementing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, helping them respond to the push for greater innovation in workforce development services and strategies.

Our Services

NAWB services help Workforce Development Board members with advocacy, partnerships, business engagement, organizational capacity and effectiveness, and networking and professional development.

- The Annual Forum is the premier event where workforce development professionals and leaders in business, government, labor, and education gather to gain insights into the current state of our nation's workforce system and consider the goals and policy framework affecting the future of human capital development. The Forum 2017 welcomed 1,500 attendees and contributors, including private sector board chairs, state and local WBD directors, education and economic development partners, CEOs, and federal government partners.
- Workforce Central is an interview-based podcast featuring industry experts and thought leaders from diverse backgrounds in business, economic development, education, and workforce and community development. NAWB President Ron Painter selects guests and serves as host and moderator. During 2016-2017, the podcast series saw more than 21,000 downloads. Themes from 2017 include the future of work; developing workforce partnerships; policy discussions with policy makers and shapers; and commentary on effective program evaluation and assessment.
- NAWB advocates for and represents workforce development boards in Washington, maintaining relationships to make sure that our members' issues are voiced during policy conversations. NAWB participates in an inter-governmental organization (IGO) network; is a member of the Committee for Education Funding; and supports the advocacy efforts of Non-Defense Discretionary United, which advocates for the importance of funding in federal workforce programs.

- Members joined NAWB in December 2016 for its first Policy Consultation. Topics focused on 1) building the relationship between workforce boards and the educational community; 2) funding workforce development as federal support declines; and 3) what policies are needed at the federal, state, and local levels to make our work more effective.

Workforce Initiatives

Through its many workforce development projects and initiatives, NAWB provides site-specific support as an expert, technical assistance provider, and facilitator. NAWB is careful to select national projects and partners that can also benefit its wider constituency of members.

NAWB has active initiatives in 32 states. Our efforts are focused on 1) providing technical assistance for WIOA implementation; 2) Study Workforce, a new online learning platform; 3) a collaborative report on the technology platforms and statewide reporting systems; 4) advancing two-generation workforce strategies; 5) supporting federal grant recipients through the America's Promise Initiative; 6) promoting equity in apprenticeships; 7) advancing workforce board success in serving the retail industry; and 8) preparing the workforce system to meet the talent needs of the renewable energy industry.

Membership Update

NAWB provides a variety of tools and resources to inform and support members.

- The NAWB members-only online portal allows members to manage their membership and access resources.
- The NAWB Career Center allows members to post workforce-related career opportunities.
- NAWB members can connect with competitive bids for products and services by posting their RFPs on the official NAWB website.
- Weekly E-Alerts from DC include funding announcements, webinars, professional development opportunities and articles of interest.
- The eNewsletter Updates from Washington communicates NAWB's advocacy efforts and provides actionable news from the Hill that members can use when interacting with elected officials.
- NAWB's Compensation Study was the first-ever nationwide survey of the salaries and benefits for 34 occupations at the executive, director, and manager levels of the U.S. workforce system.
- NAWB's Proof Points provide a framework for creating messages that help policy makers, new outlets, and the general public better understand and celebrate the successes of the workforce development community.

Financial Outlook

NAWB's financial position at FYE17 reflects its commitment to growth and responsible financial stewardship on behalf of our members, grantors, and national partners. NAWB's financial statements continue to reflect a very healthy financial position for FY17.

As the organization continues to grow its base of membership support, provided by workforce boards and other affiliated organizations, it has also devoted additional resources over the course of FY17 to expand resources available through grants and partnership activities. NAWB is confident that this two-pronged approach of continued investment in member services and dependable partnership will provide adequate resources for the organization to serve as the leading national advocate for workforce development boards and their local partners across the country.