WORKFORCE INNOVATION
AND OPPORTUNITY ACT IN
MISSISSIPPI
Program Year 2024 Annual Report
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025
2024

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in Mississippi 2024 Annual Report

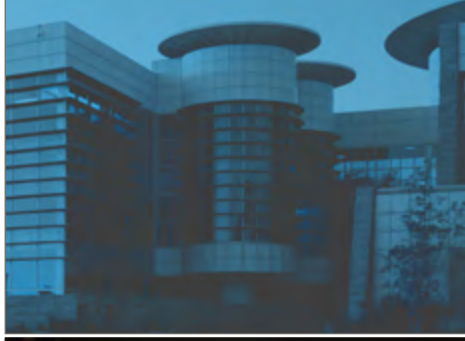
Mississippi Department of Employment Security Executive Director's Message 1
State Plan Strategic Vision and Goals 2
Titles I & III: Measuring Service and Data Quality 3
Mississippi Active Waivers 6
Governor's Discretionary Funds 10
Mississippi Apprenticeship Program 12
Services to Veterans 14
Titles I & III: Workforce Services 16
Working with Job Candidates and Laid-Off Workers 16
Working with Businesses 16
Rapid Response 18
Employment Services 19
Performance Information 19

APPENDIX A
Title II: Adult Education 20
Title IV: General Vocational Rehabilitation and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind 23
Mississippi Department of Human Services 25

APPENDIX B
Local Workforce Development Areas and WIN Job Center Locations 27
South Delta Planning and Development District 28
Three Rivers Planning and Development District 38
Central Mississippi Planning and Development District 48
Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District 58

APPENDIX C
On-the-Job Training Accounts and Individual Training Accounts 69
On-the-Job Training Including MDES & Other Funding Sources 69
Individual Training Accounts 70
Individual Training Accounts by Local Workforce Development Area 75

APPENDIX D
Individuals Served by Service Center 85



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT *of* EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

It is my honor to present the 2024 Mississippi Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Annual Report. This year's report reflects the continued strength, innovation, and resilience of Mississippi's workforce system as we work together to meet the evolving needs of our people and our economy.

Throughout Program Year 2024, the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES), in collaboration with our local workforce development areas and state partners, has expanded access to high-quality training, career services, and employer engagement strategies. From the launch of innovative apprenticeship accelerators to the expansion of digital service delivery, we are building a more inclusive, responsive, and data-informed workforce system. Among the year's highlights:

- Over **148,000 individuals** were served through the WIOA Hub, receiving more than **498,000 services** across 244 distinct categories.
- Mississippi's **job seeker satisfaction rate** reached **80.1%**, and **business satisfaction** stood at **74.4%**, reflecting strong service delivery across our WIN Job Centers.
- The **Mississippi Apprenticeship Program** continued to grow, supporting over 23,000 apprentices since its inception, including more than **8,000 women**, **15,000 people of color**, and **1,200 veterans.**
- Our **Smart Start Pathway** and **MIBEST** programs helped thousands of Mississippians earn credentials, gain employment, and transition into career pathways that offer long-term economic stability.

These achievements are a testament to the dedication of our workforce professionals, the strength of our partnerships, and the determination of the individuals and businesses we serve. Together, we are building a more connected, skilled, and resilient Mississippi workforce—one that is ready to meet the challenges of today and the opportunities of tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely,

William J. Ashley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

STATE PLAN STRATEGIC VISION AND GOALS

Mississippi's strategic vision continues to support a workforce system that acts and functions as an ecosystem where all parts are connected to achieve common goals.

This system gives every Mississippian the opportunity to be work-ready or career-ready and to secure his or her dream job right here at home. Under Mississippi's Combined Plan, from the moment one enters the education and workforce system, he or she will be presented with the necessary tools to choose and pursue a career pathway that is relevant to current and future labor markets. Similarly, as soon as current and prospective businesses enter into a partnership with Mississippi's education and workforce system, resources will be aligned to cultivate the sustainable, high-performance workforce critical for maintaining and expanding businesses' long-term economic viability. This partnership creates better and more sustainable employment opportunities for Mississippians.

This report showcases the six required state programs along with the optional partner programs that complement the state plan.

SIX REQUIRED STATE PROGRAMS

1. Adult Program
2. Dislocated Worker Program
3. Youth Program
4. Adult Education and Family Literacy Act Program
5. Wagner-Peyser Act Program
6. Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Along with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Unemployment Insurance, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Jobs for Veterans State Grants Program, and Senior Community Service Employment Program

TITLES I & III: MEASURING SERVICE AND DATA QUALITY

Measuring service and data quality for the WIOA customer satisfaction ratings were collected through a telephone survey of job seekers and businesses in Mississippi who participated in WIOA workforce programs. Eligible job seekers had received help finding a job within the last several months and were either adults or dislocated workers. Eligible businesses had received a substantial service that had either been completed or was ongoing at the time of the survey. **A total of 1,000 surveys were completed with each group accounting for 500 surveys.**

Survey Completion Results

	Job Seekers	Businesses
Survey Participants	839	1,211
Surveys Completed	500	500
Response Rate	59.6%	41.3%

Results being generalized to each type of customer indicate that both businesses and job seekers are satisfied with the services they received from the local WIN Job Centers. This suggests that local WIN Job Centers are consistently meeting the needs of their customers. Overall, the state-level results are largely reflected across WIOA areas, indicating that job seekers and businesses are satisfied with the services they are receiving from the WIN Job Centers in their area.

Survey Questions

Three questions were used to determine how satisfied job seekers and businesses were with the services they received. The first question asked job seekers or businesses to rate their overall satisfaction with the services received. The second asked how closely the services received met the expectations of the job seeker or business. The third asked if the services received were ideal for an individual or business in the same circumstances.

In addition to sharing the annual results with the local workforce areas and agency management, the MDES staff also participates in quarterly meetings with workforce managers ensuring that customer satisfaction remains a high priority. Feedback is used by the four local workforce areas and results incorporated in customer service training for staff in the WIN Job Centers.

Response from each of the three questions were used to calculate the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI).

2024 Job Seeker Satisfaction

LOCAL WORKFORCE AREA	RATE
Delta	81.8
MS Partnership	81.3
South Central	78.8
Twin Districts	79.0
State Average	**80.1**

2024 Business Satisfaction

LOCAL WORKFORCE AREA	RATE
Delta	79.7
MS Partnership	69.3
South Central	76.5
Twin Districts	75.6
State Average	**74.4**

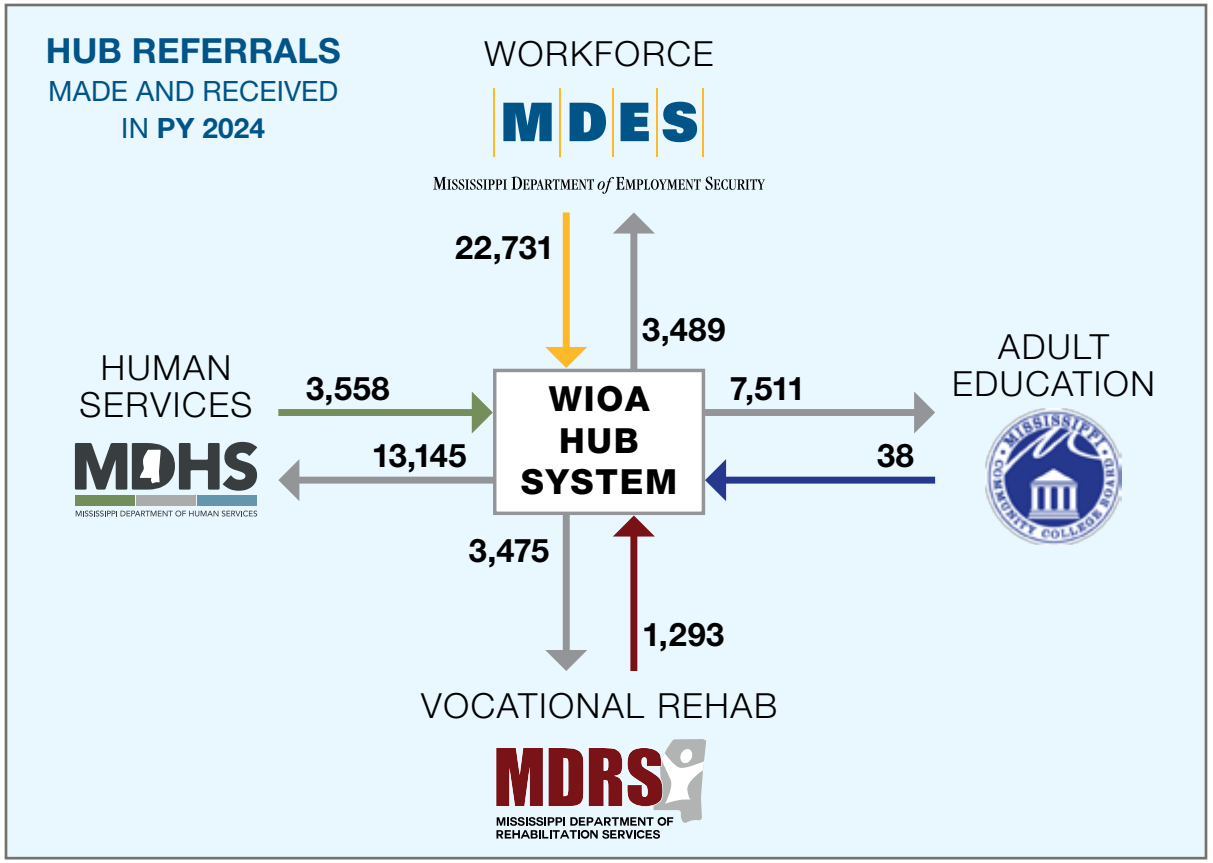
80.1%
JOB SEEKERS SATISFIED

74.4%
BUSINESSES SATISFIED

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Hub

Mississippi designed and developed a data system called the WIOA Hub to assist individuals across the WIOA partner agencies. A key goal of the Hub is to ensure that a Mississippian is connected to all services they need to connect to a job. Services from Mississippi's WIOA partners help remove barriers to work such as childcare needs, lack of transportation, lack of a high-school diploma, help searching for a job, or help to overcome a disability. The Hub allows agencies to work together to ensure that customers get connected to the variety of services they need to succeed. A key activity of WIOA implementation in Mississippi was creating a comprehensive dictionary of all the services provided by WIOA partners.

Services Provided for program year 2024 (7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025): **148,643 individuals** served by WIOA partners through the interagency WIOA Hub received over **498,233 total services**, encompassing **244 distinct kinds of services**. These services include transportation services, job placement assistance, career planning and counseling, on-the-job training, work experiences, household cash assistance, and the purchase of assistive technologies for those individuals with disabilities. The most common service provided by MDES was reaching out to WIOA participants by email, phone, or a mailed letter with information about a good job opportunity—MDES did this roughly **215,000** times.



The Hub plays a key role in allowing agencies to electronically refer customers, with the goal that no one falls through procedural cracks. The Hub is like a post office and every participating WIOA partner agency can use their own systems (mailboxes) to send and receive referrals to each other.

Eligible Training Provider List

Mississippi's Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) website contains information about approved training providers and programs. The purpose of the ETPL is to provide customer-focused employment training. Training providers who are eligible to provide services to participants with Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) through WIOA Title I-B funds are listed on the ETPL.

Training Service Providers may apply to have new training courses added to the list and may edit existing training courses during the State's annual open enrollment and recertification period, April 1-15. System Administrators may access the database for approval or denial of programs.

1,154
PARTICIPANTS SERVED

In PY 2024, the ETPL, available online, served **1,154 participants** and **43 providers**, offering **787 courses** with **80 courses** utilized by participants. ETPL tracks ITAs, On-the-Job Trainings (OJT), payments, and Registered Apprenticeship Participants and interacts daily with other state systems.

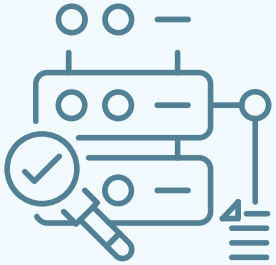
Data Validation

Data Validation is conducted and documented on a quarterly basis according to previously established processes and procedures. Training is conducted on an as-needed basis when requested by the Local Workforce Development Areas. MDES Performance and Reporting Unit staff are required to attend annual Department of Labor (DOL) training regarding WIOA guidance.

During the preparation of the Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL), personnel at NSPARC review program data for errors, missing data, out-of-range values, and anomalies. Quarterly program reviews are performed by the Performance and Reporting Unit at MDES prior to presenting the results to MDES management for approval and certification.

Data Validation was a high priority during Program Year 2024 at MDES. Along with the cooperation of NSPARC, the Performance and Reporting Unit at MDES initiated several projects to improve data integrity. These initiatives targeted data elements in all WIOA programs and included such topics as priority of service, proper resulting of services, and other miscellaneous topics.

MDES will continue to focus on improving processes and procedures to include quarterly data validation activities and more frequent training opportunities for local personnel.



MISSISSIPPI ACTIVE WAIVERS

For program years 2024-2025, Mississippi requested a waiver associated with the requirements at WIOA Section 129 (a)(4)(A) and 20 CFR 681.410, which requires not less than 75 percent of youth funds be used for Out-Of-School Youth (OSY).

This waiver request is consistent with the MS WIOA Combined State Plan and its “no wrong door” strategies. Increasing the percentage of funding available to In-School Youth (ISY) will open doors to work experience, pre-apprenticeship programs, and career pathways for at-risk students.

GOAL 1

Increase access to the MS Smart Start Career Pathway for at-risk youth in local communities based on need and without regard to educational status. The Smart Start Career Pathway provides manageable steps leading to successively higher credentials and employment outcomes tailored to current life situations. Approval of this waiver will allow the state to provide work-based learning opportunities, mitigate dropout behaviors, and improve student retention. Early intervention will increase attachment to the workforce and enrollment in post-secondary training.

GOAL 2

Build on strategic partnerships to improve services and leverage resources. Approval of this waiver will enhance linkages to local education and human services agencies and maximize the use of scarce state and local resources.

The Delta LWDA will serve 50 to 60 in-school youths annually with the expectation that these youths will be work-ready upon completion of high school and prepared to meet the DWDA WIOA performance measures. For example, in their current ISY program, the participants are training for certification in pharmacy tech, CDL, and welding, which requires consistency. They are more of a somewhat captive audience, which is the opposite of out-of-school youth.

Many youths are not interested in continuing higher education, and they get lost the summer after graduating. Currently, DWDA is finding many of these youths with high school degrees who lack a desire for training in their out-of-school youth programs, perhaps due to a lag. The local area works to close this gap with stronger relationships with school counselors.

The waiver has allowed them to maintain access to training and work-based learning opportunities for ISY participants, particularly as they wait for approval of a waiver allowing ITAs for In-School Youth. Several ISY students have been placed in internships and pre-apprenticeship experiences with high-demand employers in the LWDA, including Nissan North America, Precision Spine, the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, and other advanced manufacturing, energy, and transportation companies. These internships have been a key strategy for exposing young people to high-skill career paths they otherwise would not access while still enrolled in high school.

A major factor in their success with ISY services is South Central's ability to braid WIOA funding with the statewide Career Coach program. Nearly all of the high schools in their 17-county area now have a dedicated Career Coach, and each coach is trained in WIOA eligibility. This has essentially extended their reach directly into the schools. When Career Coaches identify a student who may qualify for WIOA services, they refer them to WIN Job Center staff for support with exploration, preparation, and connection to training or employment opportunities.

This model has significantly increased early identification of eligible youth and created a seamless handoff from school-based advising to WIOA services. Without the 50/50 waiver, their ability to support ISY within this structure would be substantially limited.

The South Central Mississippi Works LWDA uses the waiver for ISY placements and training.

Following established strategies, the state will continue to serve out-of-school youth. Adding more in-school youth funding will enhance the total number of youth served, as described in the waiver request.

OSY will continue to be the priority in Twin Districts LWDA, but they believe the partnership with ISY at high schools is increasingly important. Schools are asking for ISY partnerships, and it is needed to help students who may not have thrived during the pandemic and now may be deficient in basic skills.

A partnership between Twin Districts LWDA and Kemper County School District has provided an unprecedented opportunity for students enrolled in the Work-Based Learning program. Students have been afforded job placement previously unavailable, and employers have benefitted from the additional and much-needed workforce. The staff of the workforce area has worked closely with students to ensure that they arrive at their first interview prepared with proper job search skills and, once hired, armed with the soft skills and work ethics needed to succeed. Using the Kemper County School District model, the LWDA can easily replicate the program. It has expanded to the Hattiesburg Public School District.

Future Plan Built on Previous Successes

The State of Mississippi's graduation requirements changed for students who entered the 9th grade in August 2018, and all students are required to complete a College & Career Readiness Course or 140 hours of work-based learning activities. This waiver has helped the local workforce areas provide work-based learning opportunities and career exploration, mitigate dropout behaviors, and improve student retention. Early intervention will increase attachment to the workforce and enrollment in post-secondary training. The Delta LWDA is working on an in-school pilot project that involves two youth providers and a community college. This LWDA planned expansion will require the LWDA to take advantage of the waiver.

South Central MS Works LWDA also anticipates increased impact as soon as the Youth ITA waiver is approved. They already have ISY participants identified and waiting to enter short-term credential and career-pathway programs that align with regional industry demand. The 50/50 waiver has ensured that they can continue pipeline development with schools and employers while those approvals are finalized.

Overall, the waiver has been instrumental in helping South Central build and sustain youth pipelines that feed into the priority sectors and meet employer demand across the 17-county region.

Twin Districts LWDA will continue to serve OSY; nine OSY providers (including SMPDD) will continue to serve OSY, and adding In-School Youth (ISY) will be an enhancement to the total number of youth served in the Twin Districts. In PY24 Twin Districts served 284 OSY and 65 ISY. Additionally, the increase in partnerships formed serving ISY also serves as a source of referrals for OSY.

Twin Districts has been diligently working on collaborating with local school districts to expose ISY to WIOA services and in-demand occupations. The high school CTE programs provide the youth with training in a specific pathway and the WIOA youth programs provide the youth with work readiness skills training, supportive services, and connect the youth to paid work-based learning/work experience opportunities.

In addition to their partnership with high school CTE and work-based learning programs, they have joined efforts with their sister program, the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD) High School Career Coach program funded through AccelerateMS. The High School Career Coaches work to equip students and parents with information about career options and help them navigate their future after high school. The High School Career Coaches help identify ISY that need direction towards a career path and spread awareness of programs and career opportunities, including the WIOA youth program.

All these partner programs have common goals for the same population. Together, they all work to maximize our efforts to increase the awareness of in-demand occupations, increase college and career readiness, and connect ISY to work-based learning opportunities. In addition to utilizing the 50/50 waiver by increasing our in-school enrollments, these partnerships are enabling the Twin Districts to achieve our sector strategy goals, such as aligning CTE programs with Community Colleges and business needs in our area.

SMPDD has strengthened its focus on serving in-school youth by recently creating an In-School Coordinator position to expand services to in-school youth across the 24-county TDWDA area.

GOVERNOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

Each year, Governor's Discretionary funds are used to provide statewide employment and training services that are required by WIOA. These include such activities as operating a fiscal and management accountability system, carrying out monitoring activities, and operating and maintaining the State's list of eligible training providers.

Mississippi's Governor also directs some of these funds toward other statewide allowable employment and training services, such as pilot programs to serve individuals with barriers to employment, improving coordination with the state agency providing adult education and literacy, and demonstration projects to meet the employment or training needs of adults and dislocated workers. This is an opportunity for Mississippi's workforce leaders and the Governor to be creative by developing new workforce initiatives.

Grantees this year include:

- Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB)
- East MS Community College
- Institute for Disability Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM)
- New Albany School District
- South Delta Planning and Development District (Delta LWDA)
- Three Rivers Planning and Development District (MS Partnership LWDA)

The following are some highlights from these programs.

MCCB provided support to the 15 community colleges in the state to provide the Smart Start Pathway Course, which is taught to all community college students. The Smart Start Credential consists of 45 hours of intensive career development, assessment, and basic skills development. These activities are oriented toward in-demand, middle-skill occupations and include preparing students to take the NCRC and offering test prep for three WorkKeys® assessments. The subgrant to **East MS Community College** expanded on this foundation to provide Smart Start to 262 high school students in their six-county service area.

T**he Institute for Disability Studies at USM** provided their Getting Employable Today (GET) Work Ready program for more than 130 in-school youth with disabilities and other barriers to employment in a 15-county area. This program includes the Smart Start curriculum and IDS/USM's Transition to Adulthood Curriculum. Ninety-two (92) students completed the training and, as of June 2025, five of them were placed in employment and three were enrolled in college for Fall 2025.

New Albany School District upgraded their STEM lab at the high school and the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center, expanded their robotics program, provided internships and work-based learning, and provided dual enrollment support for students receiving both high school and college credit for their CTE coursework.

To further bolster Registered Apprenticeship (RA) as a viable workforce development initiative in Mississippi, **South Delta PDD/ Delta LWDA** provided apprenticeship support to the Ag Pilot Apprenticeship program at Delta State University with classroom training, flight training, support services, On-the-Job Training, supplies and tuition, books, and classroom materials. This grant is part of a larger Aerial Applicator program that is making national headlines as the first of its kind in the United States. The program braids funding from a federal appropriation, WIOA Governor's Discretionary funds, private funding from Rural LISC, and AccelerateMS.

This subaward assisted the current apprentices already in the program (Class 2) complete On-the-Job Training, thereby completing their Registered Apprenticeships. There are two additional cohorts of apprentices, beginning with Class 3 in October 2024, and Class 4 in October 2025. As of June 2025, 12 of the 15 students from Classes 2 & 3 completed their training and all 12 were placed in employment.

On May 29, 2025, eight Ag Pilot apprentices were honored at the AAOCP Certification Ceremony in Cleveland, MS where the program is housed. Three of these students were selected for the William Austin Scrogin Agricultural Aviation Scholarship to continue their education, training, and growth in the aerial applicator operations industry. One of them additionally received the Conner Lang Agricultural Aviation Scholarship.

Three Rivers PDD/MS Partnership LWDA was awarded two subgrants – one for Out-of-School Youth (OSY) and one for Adults and Dislocated Workers. The Mississippi Partnership partnered with its WIOA OSY providers to implement Youth Priority Sector Internship opportunities. The Mississippi Partnership's priority sectors include: (1) Advanced Manufacturing, (2) Energy, (3) Healthcare, (4) Information Technology, and (5) Logistics/Warehouse. A new and emerging sector in the LWDA's 27-county region is Construction, which was also targeted by this grant. These internship opportunities offered up to 320 hours of paid internship experience at a minimum of $12.00 an hour. Of the 35 participants enrolled, 29 had completed training by June 30, 2025, and 22 of them were placed in employment, with one enrolling in college.

The MS Partnership's Adult and Dislocated Worker project, Target Sector Upskill, partnered with East MS Community College to address critical workforce development needs across the Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Allied Health, Logistics/Warehouse, Energy, and Construction sectors. They integrated ITA and OJT into this program to enhance the skill sets of individuals while meeting the evolving demands of key industries in The Mississippi Partnership area.

One notable success of the program is **Owl's Head Alloys Inc.**, which was a newly established company that placed twenty new hires on OJT at EMCC in November 2024. Seventeen of these twenty completed the 320 hours plus 40 hours retention in January 2025. Nine months later, all seventeen of these completers are still employed at Owl's Head Alloys Inc. and the company is doing remarkably well.

MISSISSIPPI APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

More than 100 Medical Apprentices Graduate

Singing River Healthcare Academy held its annual Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony on October 29, 2024 at the Pascagoula Performing Arts Center. The event honored more than 100 graduates from various healthcare disciplines, including its licensed practical nursing, certified nursing assistant, medical assistant, and phlebotomy apprenticeship programs. Graduates received certificates for the successful completion of the academy's programs.

Singing River Healthcare Academy provides hands-on training to individuals seeking careers in healthcare, preparing students to fill critical roles in hospitals, clinics, and other medical settings. Through its comprehensive apprenticeship model, the academy aims to meet the growing demand for healthcare professionals on the Gulf Coast, while fostering a strong commitment to patient care and service.

Singing River Healthcare Academy was established as the state's first-ever medical apprenticeship program implemented to provide growth opportunities and career pathways to improve health and save lives in our community through an improved, more diverse workforce.

The Mississippi Apprenticeship Program (MAP), an initiative of MDES, promotes the creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs. MAP assists businesses of all sizes in designing, registering, and implementing apprenticeship programs tailored to their workforce needs. It plays a strategic role in workforce systems by collaborating with local workforce development areas, industry partners, community colleges, and other education systems to align and expand apprenticeship pathways in high-demand sectors across Mississippi.

In partnership with AccelerateMS, MAP launched the Mississippi Apprenticeship Accelerator (MAA) to fund and scale apprenticeship programs where they are most needed. The initiative aims to close critical skill gaps by incentivizing the creation and expansion of apprenticeships in priority occupations. It also supports training, support services, and program infrastructure, encouraging pre-apprenticeship pipelines through collaboration with local workforce areas, secondary schools, community colleges, noncredit training providers, and other stakeholders.

AccelerateMS has dedicated $2 million in MS WORKS funds for MAA, with a goal of supporting 600 new apprentices in priority fields over the next three years. MAA demonstrates how state-level workforce funding can strategically target apprenticeship expansion efforts, complementing federal grant opportunities to help Mississippi businesses develop a highly trained workforce in priority occupations. MAA will support training efforts in industries such as advanced manufacturing, transportation and logistics, healthcare, energy/utilities, IT, and others that meet employer demand and provide career pathways for Mississippians.

To learn more about MAP and the MAA accelerator funding, visit **www.msapprenticeship.works**.

MISSISSIPPI APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM | An ApprenticeshipUSA™ Initiative

OUR IMPACT

Supported by MAP since 2016

23,678
TOTAL APPRENTICES
AS OF June 30, 2025

8,129
FEMALE APPRENTICES
AS OF June 30, 2025

15,592
PEOPLE OF COLOR
AS OF June 30, 2025

1,234
VETERAN APPRENTICES
AS OF June 30, 2025

PROGRAMS SIGNED OR EXPANDED

August 2024
- Castle
- Robinson Electric

October 2024
- Shackelford Construction
- LaFollette Electric

April 2025
- hago Automotive
- Big River Forest Products

May 2025
- Airbus Helicopters
- Bright Stars Learning Inc.
- G.P.A. Micro Learning Academy
- Tegra Medical
- Tino's Pet Grooming

June 2025
- IMS Engineers

MAP is committed to accelerating the growth of registered apprenticeships, particularly in high-wage, high-demand fields.

SERVICES TO VETERANS

The Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JVSG) Program is a vital part of the WIN Job Center network. From July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, the program **served 376 veterans**, **an increase of 10% over the previous year**, providing career planning and job placement assistance. It supports veterans transitioning to civilian employment and those facing barriers such as homelessness, low income, disabilities, and justice involvement. Many justice-involved veterans work with Mississippi Veterans Treatment Courts to pursue successful employment outcomes.

This service is delivered against the backdrop of record-low unemployment rates and consecutive quarters of strong economic performance in Mississippi. The state's thriving economy underscores the importance of programs like JVSG, **which equip veterans with the tools to contribute meaningfully** to the workforce while overcoming challenges to employment.

MDES **delivers veteran-focused employment services** through the JVSG program, a federally funded initiative administered by the U.S. Department of Labor. JVSG supports veterans and eligible spouses by providing individualized career services through trained staff within MDES's statewide network of WIN Job Centers.

Veterans often face unique barriers when transitioning to the civilian workforce. MDES addresses these challenges through targeted assistance that includes skills assessments, resume development, labor market information, job referrals, and support connecting with **veteran-ready employers**.

376
VETERANS SERVED

In 2025, the JVSG program in Mississippi began a **significant restructuring to better serve** the evolving needs of the veteran community. The agency will consolidate the roles of Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists and Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs) into a unified position known as the **Veteran Employment Coordinator** (VEC). This streamlined model ensures a more holistic, end-to-end service approach, especially critical in rural and underserved communities where resources are limited.

The JVSG team includes VECs strategically located across the state based on veteran population density and employer presence. They are supported by a **State Veteran Coordinator**, who provides statewide oversight, and a JVSG Director, who sets the program's strategic direction.

MDES prioritizes support for transitioning service members and veterans facing significant employment barriers, including those aged 18–24, receiving VA care, experiencing homelessness, or justice-involved. Certain eligible spouses may also receive services. Through comprehensive case management, employer engagement, and individualized employment plans, the program helps veterans achieve sustainable careers and long-term stability.

In addition to direct services, MDES works with employers to promote veteran hiring and increase awareness of federal incentives such as the **Work Opportunity Tax Credit** (WOTC), the **Hire Vets Medallion Program**, and **Fidelity Bonding**. These efforts not only reduce hiring risks but also reinforce **Mississippi's commitment to supporting those who have served**.

JVSG continues to play a **vital role in Mississippi's workforce system**, ensuring that veterans are not only connected to jobs, but to careers that reflect their skills, experiences, and value to our communities.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is a community service and work-based job training program **designed for older Mississippians** who are at least 55 years old, unemployed, and have a family income at or below 125 percent of the federal poverty level.

Enrollment priority is first given to veterans and eligible spouses, followed by individuals who are over the age of 65; have a disability; possess low literacy skills or limited English proficiency; live in rural areas; are homeless or at risk of homelessness; have low employment prospects; or have been unsuccessful in finding employment.

The primary goal of SCSEP is to reduce barriers to employment for older Mississippians and support their return to the workforce through permanent, unsubsidized jobs. By offering temporary, part-time work experience through community service at nonprofit and public organizations, participants gain the skills and confidence needed to secure long-term employment.

Mississippi – Shipbuilding Industry Preparedness for National Security Program

The Mississippi – Shipbuilding Industry Preparedness for National Security (MS SHIPs) program is a strategic workforce development initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Defense. Its primary goal is to strengthen and expand Mississippi's capacity to support the national defense shipbuilding industry through a skilled, diverse, and sustainable workforce.

The program is designed to bolster national security by modernizing Mississippi's shipbuilding industry and enhancing its capacity, capability, competitiveness, and resiliency. MS SHIPs supports the development of a skilled and diverse talent pipeline, accelerates the adoption of Industry 4.0 (I4.0) manufacturing practices across the shipbuilding supply chain, and promotes advanced solutions to improve worker safety.

The program is led by AccelerateMS, in collaboration with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) and other partners, who will work with industry stakeholders to execute the project mission through **three primary goals:**

1. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
2. INCREASING COMPETITIVENESS
3. INDUSTRIAL MODERNIZATION

Subgrantees include community colleges and regional workforce entities that deliver training, wraparound services, and technical education aligned with industry needs.

By investing in human capital and industry-aligned training, MS SHIPs ensures that Mississippi remains a critical contributor to the nation's defense readiness and industrial base. The program directly supports the WIOA mission by fostering sector-based partnerships, enhancing workforce readiness, and contributing to regional economic resilience and national defense priorities.

TITLES I & III: WORKFORCE SERVICES

WORKING WITH JOB CANDIDATES AND LAID-OFF WORKERS

Mississippi's network of WIN Job Centers is the centerpiece of the Mississippi Workforce Investment Network (WIN). These centers provide easy access to employment services such as education and training for workers, human resource assistance for businesses, and information for economic developers. During Program Year 2024, over 37,137 participants were served under Wagner-Peyser utilizing $5,015,194 at a cost of $135 per participant.

Job Search and Placement Assistance

WIN Job Center staff members help customers find work. They also help businesses find employees. People looking for work use WIN Job Center computers to search for jobs on their own or work with available staff. WIN Job Center staff also help clients create or update resumes, conduct job searches, and prepare for job interviews. Staff members provide information on high-demand occupations and available job training to help customers be more competitive in the job market.

Information On and Referral to Training

The WIN Job Center staff and online resources connect customers to employment services and training programs of MDES and its workforce partners. Training programs are available to eligible individuals enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act programs who cannot find adequate employment through normal job search strategies.

Assistance on-site or by referral may include occupational skills training, On-the-Job Training, entrepreneurial training, skills upgrading, job readiness training, and adult education and literacy activities. Some customers may be eligible to receive Individual Training Accounts which allow them to choose educational options from a list of eligible training providers.

Internet Access for Job Openings and Resume Posting

Individuals looking for jobs and/or training have access to computers and WIN Job Center staff. Staff members are available to assist job seekers with career exploration as well as job openings.

Access to Office Equipment

Customers have access to modern office technology which aids them in their job search. This includes computers, telephones, and copy machines. Digital access technologies such as collaboration tools are also available for interviews and other job seeking needs.

WIN JOB CENTER

WORKING WITH BUSINESSES

Businesses operating in Mississippi or considering a move to the state will find the Mississippi WIN system and the WIN Job Centers eager to assist with searching for qualified employees, researching state, local and federal regulations, exploring the state's economic development services, and more.

In support of Mississippi businesses, WIN Job Centers provide a vast array of services,

including providing E-Verify, hosting job fairs, posting jobs, screening potential workers, providing meaningful data about Mississippi's labor market, and providing training services all at no cost to businesses and workers.

The Mississippi Workforce Investment Network system endeavors to gather and produce meaningful information that matches business needs and employee skill levels. The WIN Job Centers provide information on a variety of services and training opportunities to help businesses.

Recruitment and Screening

- Recruit, screen, and refer a variety of job seekers, ranging from entry-level workers to skilled professionals.
- Recruit full-time, part-time, and seasonal workers.
- Post job openings.
- Host job fairs.
- Partner with businesses to clarify job descriptions and eligibility criteria.
- Screen applicants to ensure that the right workers with the right skills are referred.
- Provide access to federal funding for programs.

Training

- On-the-Job Training reimburses a portion of expenses incurred during the initial training process. The WIN Job Center can reimburse a company up to one-half the cost of training eligible workers through On-the-Job Training. Reimbursement is based on the trainee's wage at hire date. The amount available to be reimbursed depends upon the intensity of the skills required for the position. On-the-Job Training is limited to 50 percent of a business's workforce and is at the discretion of the Local Workforce Development Board. Businesses may be reimbursed for up to six months. The length of training usually ranges from 160 hours to 1,040 hours per employee. Upon completion of the training, the company may be eligible for the federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit.
- Refer businesses and job seekers to training programs that support human resource departments.
- Provide information on other types of training services such as pre-employment, incumbent worker, and customized training, which assist the company with the cost of skills upgrading.

Other Services

- Provide businesses access to the labor pool.
- Provide information about wages and employment trends.
- Keep companies informed about state demographic and economic information.
- Provide information on Alien Employment Certification guidelines.
- Provide office space for interviewing and on-site screening.
- Help businesses determine eligibility for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, a federal tax savings of up to $9,600 per person for hiring workers from certain target groups.
- Rapid Response services to help manage layoffs and closures.

54.5%
EFFECTIVENESS SERVING EMPLOYERS

Effective with Program Year 2024, all states were required to report a combined measure (shown above) that includes data from Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and MDES.

RAPID RESPONSE

Imagine a company facing a tough decision—a major layoff or plant closure. It's a difficult time for both management and employees. That's when the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) steps in with Rapid Response, a free early-intervention program designed to ease the transition.

It starts with an MDES Rapid Response Coordinator contacting the company. Instead of leaving the business and workers to navigate the crisis alone, MDES offers support to build a transition plan that reduces disruption.

A Rapid Response Team is then assembled: experts from WIN Job Centers, community colleges, unemployment offices, and Local Workforce Areas. They collaborate with the company to assess the needs of affected workers.

The team hosts Rapid Response sessions for employees, sharing available services like resume workshops, job placement help, and unemployment benefit guidance. Workers also learn about veteran resources, career assessments, and even entrepreneurship support.

Meanwhile, the team works with management to explore layoff alternatives. They may recommend incumbent worker training to boost skills or work-sharing programs that reduce hours instead of jobs, allowing employees to receive partial unemployment benefits.

The impact is clear: Rapid Response assisted **1,920 employees** from **24 businesses** facing closures or downsizing. It's a story of turning crisis into opportunity—with support, planning, and dignity.

1,920
EMPLOYEES ASSISTED

24
BUSINESSES HELPED

At a Rapid Response event, displaced workers will learn about services and benefits designed to help get them back on their feet, including:

- ***Surviving a Layoff* book: to help in preparing for a job interview;**
- **Job search assistance;**
- **Resume preparation and interviewing skills workshops;**
- **Education and training opportunities;**
- **Unemployment Insurance;**
- **Services that may be available include:**
  - financial planning and stress management workshops;
  - financial support for training;
  - income support if job loss was due to foreign trade; and
  - special services for veterans and adults with disabilities.

RAPIDRESPONSE
Helping Workers and Businesses When Jobs are Lost

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The following table shows attainment rates on each performance measure for the state as a whole. Each year, Mississippi negotiates attainment rates on each common performance measure with the U.S. Department of Labor. All of the data in Mississippi's WIOA performance reports is uniformly reported and validated in accordance with federal requirements.

MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE

Statewide Reported Information	Negotiated Performance Level	Actual Performance Level
Adult Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	90.0%	87.4%
Adult Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	89.4%	88.2%
Adult Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$7,699	$8,358
Adult Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	67.1%	77.1%
Adult Measurable Skill Gain	67.0%	78.2%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	78.8%	81.3%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	79.3%	80.9%
Dislocated Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$6,868	$7,546
Dislocated Worker Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	70.0%	80.2%
Dislocated Worker Measurable Skill Gain	66.8%	78.5%
Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	86.8%	84.9%
Youth Employment Rate 4th Quarter Exit	85.7%	86.3%
Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$3,390	$3,744
Youth Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	71.6%	76.6%
Youth Measurable Skill Gain	74.7%	67.6%
Wagner-Peyser Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	79.5%	77.2%
Wagner-Peyser Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	78.8%	77.2%
Wagner-Peyser Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$5,981	$6,042

APPENDIX A

TITLE II:
ADULT EDUCATION

To support the strategic vision and goals of Mississippi's WIOA Combined Plan, the Office of Adult Education has made significant progress in serving one of the most disconnected populations—those without a high school equivalency diploma or its equivalent. The goals of the Office of Adult Education are to:

- Improve Educational Opportunities by scaling effective models and strategies statewide
- Increase Postsecondary Transitions and Credential Attainment
- Strengthen College and Career Readiness for adult learners
- Develop Multi-Level Career Pathway Options

8,516
PARTICIPANTS SERVED

Critical Components in WIOA:

High School Equivalency Diploma – Adult education services are available in all 82 counties through face-to-face, online, or hybrid instruction. Instruction includes adult basic education, adult secondary education, and English as a Second Language (ESL). There are four (4) options for earning a high school equivalency diploma: GED, HiSET, Competency-Based Diploma, and Total Transcript. All options are recognized by employers, licensing agencies, and institutions of higher education as equivalent to a traditional high school diploma.

Smart Start Pathway Course – Smart Start equips individuals with essential skills needed to obtain and retain middle-skill employment. The course covers Mississippi's labor market information, employer expectations, and industry-recognized credentials. Earning the Smart Start Credential, which includes the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), confirms that individuals have the foundational skills necessary for workplace success.

MIBEST – The Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MIBEST) program is a workforce and economic development initiative that helps low-skilled, non-credentialed Mississippians transition from the economic margins into careers with family-sustaining wages. This accelerated model allows individuals to enroll in workforce training programs at community colleges without first obtaining a high school diploma.

Total Participants Served	**8,516**
Attained a Secondary School Diploma (HSE)	**2,379**
Achieved at Least One Educational Functioning Level (EFL) Gain	**4,597**
Enrolled in PS Ed/Training	**948**
Enrolled in Integrated Education & Training	**260**
Attained a PS Ed/Training Credential/Certificate	**459**
Attained a National Career Readiness Certificate	**3,159**
Measurable Skill Gains Percentage (Federal Target for MS = 56%)	**68.58%**

The **Smart Start Pathway Course** prepares students to participate in workforce preparation activities including, but not limited to, problem-solving, teamwork, effective communication, goal setting/time management, professional image, role of employer and employee, career awareness, financial awareness, and life skills.

Smart Start

Participants Served	**3,239**
Attained a Secondary School Diploma (HSE)	**1,097**
Achieved at Least One EFL Gain	**2,179**
Enrolled in PS Ed/Training	**371**
Enrolled in Integrated Education & Training	**318**
Attained a PS Ed/Training Credential/Certificate	**202**
Attained a Smart Start Credential/ Certificate	**1,479**
Attained a National Career Readiness Certificate	**1,476**
Measurable Skill Gains Percentage (Federal Target for MS = 56%)	**97%**

mibest
MISSISSIPPI INTEGRATED BASIC EDUCATION & SKILLS TRAINING

MIBEST is a service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement.

Participants Served	886
Attained a Secondary School Diploma (HSE)	184
Earned an Industry Recognized Certificate	143

Top pathway programs in adult education:

- **Welding**
- **Certified Nursing Assistant**
- **Healthcare Data Technology**
- **Business Administration & Management**
- **Commercial Truck Driving**

The **Office of Adult Education** provides comprehensive professional development opportunities categorized into virtual sessions and face-to-face engagements. These initiatives encompass crucial themes such as digital literacy, mental wellness, leadership, special education, numeracy, and career services, aiming to enhance educational outcomes and support services for adult learners across the state.

Examples of face-to-face sessions are:

- **Directors Training**
- **Leadership Development**
- **Data Management System Training**
- **New Teacher Academy**
- **College and Career Navigators Training**
- **Capitol Day**

Jedidiah Grandison, a student from Greenville, Mississippi, enrolled in the Adult Education program at the Greenville WIN Job Center in March 2023.

Although he did not return to Greenville High School for his senior year, he completed his education at a small private school. Initially, Jedidiah believed his diploma from the private school lacked credibility. However, during the enrollment process, he discovered that his diploma was accredited and accepted by Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC).

After learning about the MIBEST program, Jedidiah expressed a strong interest in pursuing the welding pathway. The Adult Education Instructor at the Greenville WIN Job Center guided him through the Smart Start course, scheduled his National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) assessment, and encouraged him to enroll full-time for the Fall 2023 semester. Upon earning a Bronze level NCRC, Jedidiah took the necessary steps to begin his welding education. He completed the FAFSA, applied to MDCC, and submitted his MIBEST application.

Jedidiah receives support through W.K. Kellogg Foundation funding, which provides him with a meal plan, bus transportation, completion incentives, welding supplies (including a welding helmet), and textbooks. He is currently enrolled full-time in the Welding Technical Certificate program at MDCC and maintains a 3.3 GPA.

Skill UP MISSISSIPPI

A **Smart Start** to your career.

As the only son of a single mother and the sibling of five sisters, Jedidiah demonstrates remarkable dedication. He catches the bus at 6:40 a.m. each morning and does not return home until 6:00 p.m. He hopes to secure employment with Mississippi Marine following the completion of his Spring 2024 classes.

TITLE IV:
GENERAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR THE BLIND

MDRS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

The basic tenet of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind (VRB) program is that individuals with disabilities, including those with the most significant disabilities, can achieve high-quality, competitive integrated employment (CIE) when they are provided with the services and support they need. It is VR/VRB's goal to ensure that the provision of services is an individualized activity directed toward the specific rehabilitation needs of everyone served.

The following categories of VR/VRB services are available to assist individuals with disabilities in preparing for, obtaining, retaining, and/or advancing in an employment outcome that is consistent with the individual's unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice.

Pre-Employment Transition And Transition Services

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) and Transition Services for potentially eligible and eligible students with disabilities include job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences, counseling on enrollment in postsecondary training opportunities, workplace readiness training, and instruction in self-advocacy, including peer mentoring. VR/ VRB collaborates with local school districts statewide to assist students in making a successful transition from secondary school to employment or postsecondary training.

Those served in PY 2024 include:

Potentially Eligible students with disabilities served	**2,795**
VR Transition Students served	**3,414**
VRB Transition students served	**106**

Career Services

Career services include, but are not limited to, VR counseling and guidance, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of impairments, job prep/job search, job placement, short-term job training, assistive technology, benefits counseling, and supported employment. The IPE for individuals may include one or more of these services. Some individuals require more assistance than others to reach the goal of getting and keeping a job. **In PY 2024, 10,790 individuals received one or more of these career services.**

Training Services

VR/VRB purchases vocational and other training services for eligible individuals with disabilities who require additional knowledge or skills to enter employment that is consistent with their aptitude and ability, and compatible with their physical or mental impairments. Vocational and other training services include personal and vocational adjustment training, orientation and mobility for individuals with blindness, academic training, vocational training, or training services in an institution of higher education (universities, colleges, community or junior colleges, vocational schools, technical institutes, and/or any other postsecondary educational institution). **2,739 individuals received VR Training Services in PY 2024.**

Measurable Skill Gains/ Credential Attainment

In PY 2024, 2,712 individuals were enrolled in an Education/Training program, and of those individuals, **2,171 received a measurable skill gain.**

Supported Employment

The Supported Employment program assists individuals with the most significant disabilities who require intensive ongoing support services to prepare for, obtain, maintain, and/or regain competitive integrated employment. Each MDRS district has a Supported Employment Team consisting of a specialized VR/SE Counselor, Vocational Training Instructor, and Counselor Assistant who manages the day-to-day case service work for our consumers. The VR/SE Counselor and Vocational Training Instructor oversee the work of Job Skills Trainers who provide one-on-one training assistance on-site to our consumers. During PY 2024, **663 most significant individuals received Supported Employment services,** and 90 attained a successful employment outcome.

Deaf And Hard Of Hearing Services

VR provides services to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or late deafened to assist them in obtaining, retaining, or advancing in employment. Rehabilitation counselors for the deaf work with consumers to help them make informed choices about their career goals and assist them in identifying and obtaining the specialized services and assistive technology equipment needed to help them meet their goals.

4,260

VR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES PROVIDED

Interpreting services are provided remotely through online platforms such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and FaceTime as well as in-person. **In PY 2024, VR Deaf and Hard of Hearing services served 4,260**.

Project Search

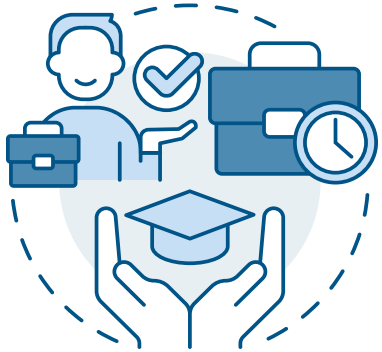
The Project SEARCH Program is a unique, business-led, nine-month employment preparation program that takes place entirely at the workplace. Up to 12 students with disabilities experience total workplace immersion, classroom instruction, career exploration, and hands-on training through three different worksite rotations. The goal for each participant is competitive employment. To reach that goal, the program provides real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent-living skills to help young people with significant disabilities make successful transitions to productive adult life.

In PY 2024, 128 individuals with disabilities graduated from Project SEARCH and 80 are currently employed. **Since the inception of the Project SEARCH program in Mississippi, 434 individuals with disabilities have graduated, and to date 323 have gained competitive integrated employment.**

MDHS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

The Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) collaborates with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs through the state's workforce development system. MDHS recognizes that these programs are essential for helping low-income individuals and families access job training, job placement, and support services that remove barriers to employment and promote long-term self-sufficiency.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program E&T

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) E&T program is designed to provide SNAP recipients with opportunities to gain skills, training, and education to meet the current needs of local employers and grow Mississippi's economy.

The SNAP E&T Skills2Work program engages a network of partner organizations to help SNAP recipients gain skills and find work with sustainable wages. Skills2Work participants have access to training and support to help them enter or move up in the workforce. These programs also help to reduce participant's barriers to employment and/or training by providing support services like transportation, childcare, and many more.

Hinds Community College offers career and technical programs, workforce skills training programs, Adult Education, and Smart Start classes. Skills2Work participants also have access to wrap-around services that help eliminate barriers to completion.

The Refill Jackson Initiative offers education and vocational training and work experience to Skills2Work participants in Hinds, Rankin, and Madison counties through nine (9) weeks of classroom instruction, work experience, and additional support services. Refill takes a holistic approach, addressing immediate barriers to employment while also helping participants build the long-term skills they need.

SKILLS2WORK

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE REFILL JACKSON INITIATIVE

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Work Program

The goal of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Work Program (TWP) is to help Mississippians achieve self-sufficiency by preparing them for careers through job readiness training, skills development, vocational education, and other training opportunities.

MDHS partners with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) to provide case management and individualized support. This partnership helps participants reduce their dependence on public assistance and achieve their employment goals. While enrolled in the TANF Work Program, participants receive support services such as transportation stipends and childcare assistance.

In addition, the program offers transitional support services—including continued childcare, transportation assistance, and career incentive bonuses—for a designated period. These services are designed to help participants maintain stable employment as they transition off TANF benefits.

Monique Sanford began her TANF case at the Greenville WIN Job Center on June 10, 2024.

With a passion for the medical field and a desire to better support her children, she quickly engaged in the program and was placed at the WWISCAA Senior Building in Greenville.

Ms. Sanford remained proactive throughout her journey—clearly communicating her goals, managing challenges with confidence, and actively pursuing employment. With her medical certifications and experience, she applied for several positions and successfully completed a two-step interview process with Delta Health Systems–Medical Center.

She was hired as a Registrar, working approximately 32 hours per week at $10.81 per hour. Her professionalism, reliability, and strong work ethic have been praised by both her site manager and WIN Job Center staff.

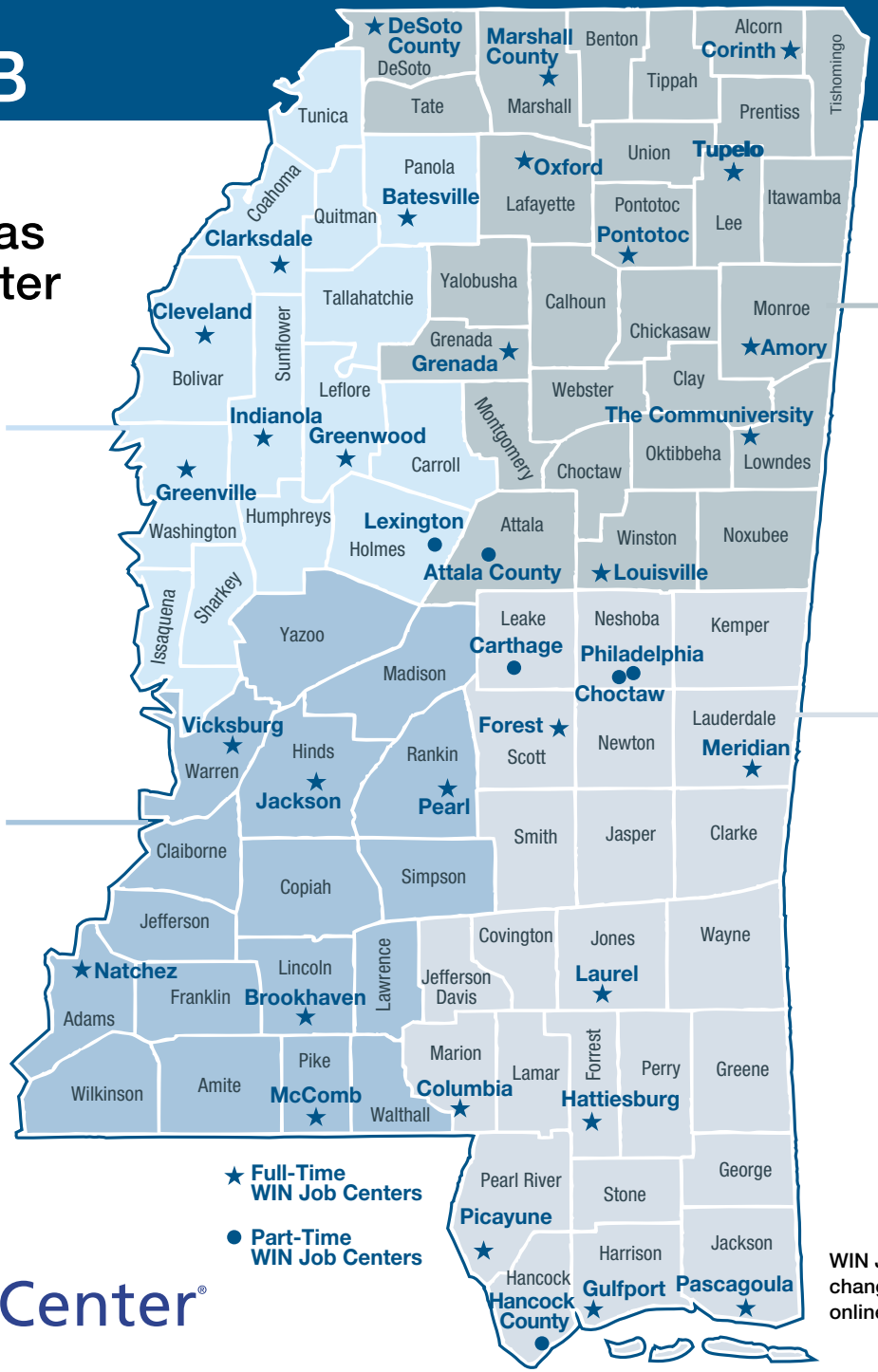
As she transitions off TANF, the Greenville WIN Job Center proudly congratulates Ms. Sanford on her success and remains committed to supporting her continued growth.

APPENDIX B

Local Workforce Development Areas and WIN Job Center Locations

Delta
Mitzi Woods,
Workforce Director
1427 S. Main Street, Suite 147
Greenville, MS 38701
Phone: 662-335-6889
Fax: 662-332-5175
Email: mwoods@sdpdd.com

South Central Mississippi Works
Robin Parker,
Workforce Director
1020 Centre Pointe Boulevard
Pearl, MS 39208
Post Office Box 4935
Phone: 601-981-1511
Email: rparker@cmpdd.org



★ Full-Time WIN Job Centers

● Part-Time WIN Job Centers

The Mississippi Partnership
Terry Treadaway,
Director of Workforce Development
Post Office Box 690
75 South Main Street
Pontotoc, MS 38863
Phone: 662-489-2415
Fax: 662-489-0958
Email: ttreadaway@trpdd.com

Twin Districts
Allison B. Hawkins,
Economic Workforce Development Division Director
Patricia Morrison,
Economic Workforce Development Assistant Division Director
Workforce Development
10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1
Gulfport, MS 39503
Phone: 228-868-2311
Email: ahawkins@smpdd.com, pmorrison@smpdd.com

AmericanJobCenter®

WIN Job Center location information is subject to change. For the most current information, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov

Delta Local Workforce Development Area

SOUTH DELTA PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

SOUTH DELTA
Planning & Development District

Overview

South Delta Planning and Development District (SDPDD) has been the designated fiscal agent for the Delta Workforce Development Area (DWDA) Board since its inception in 2000. SDPDD provides the administrative and fiscal support functions associated with the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in the 14 counties of the DWDA.

Six staff members support the activities of the DWDA Board in planning and coordination; rapid response activities; management information systems; contract management; monitoring activities, small business development/entrepreneurial/ self-employment; fiscal accountability; and administration of adult, dislocated worker, and youth programs.

WIN Job Center Locations

Batesville
662-360-1236
325 Lakewood Drive
Batesville, MS 38606

Clarksdale
662-624-9001
236 Sharkey Ave., 3rd floor
Federal Building
P.O. Box 640
Clarksdale, MS 38614-0640

Cleveland
662-843-2704
119 N. Commerce Ave.
P.O. Box 1750
Cleveland, MS 38732-1750

Greenville
662-379-7404
1746 Highway 1, Suite C
Greenville, MS 38701

Greenwood
662-459-4600
812 W. Park Ave.
P.O. Box 554
Greenwood, MS 38935-0554

NOTE: WIN Job Center location information is subject to change. For the most current information, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov

The Teddy Bear was invented in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt when he was on a bear hunting trip near Onward, Mississippi in November, 1902.

LWDA Interesting Fact

With no bears to be found to hunt, his assistant, Holt Collier, tied a black bear to a tree and suggested that he shoot it. President Roosevelt refused saying it was unsportsmanlike. It made news because he was known to be a big game hunter.

A political cartoonist, Clifford Berryman, read the article and drew a cartoon that appeared in the Washington Post later that month. A candy shop owner saw the cartoon and made a stuffed bear toy and dedicated it to the President.

He called it “Teddy’s Bear”. To this day, the Teddy Bear’s popularity can be traced back to President Roosevelt.

Greenville WIN Job Center with new signage reflecting the updated logo .

With decreases in WIOA funding year after year, the Delta collaborates with other entities and funding sources to provide comprehensive services to employers, adults, youth and dislocated workers in the 14 counties. Training efforts are coordinated with businesses; the four community colleges in the Delta Area; the Mississippi Community College Board; the Mississippi Development Authority; the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES); the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS); the Mississippi Office of Apprenticeship; Accelerate MS; along with local and private partners, Delta Compass, Delta Health Alliance Rural LISC and Jobs for the Future. The Delta works with other state partners including the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB); Mississippi Manufacturers Association, Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MMA-MEP), Mississippi Economic Council (MEC); local and regional economic development organizations; and other state, local, and private entities to provide guidance and funding to ensure the best use of the training funds.

The Mississippi Delta's economic future hinges on its ability to connect residents with quality careers in high-demand industries. Through the newly formalized public-private partnership (P3) between South Delta Planning and Development District (SDPDD), Delta Compass, Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC), Delta State University (DSU), and local industry partners, the region is building clear, navigable career pathways in energy, advanced manufacturing, and aerospace. These pathways are designed to meet the evolving needs of employers while ensuring residents—from high school students to displaced workers—can move seamlessly from training to employment.

As the Mississippi Delta works to transform its economic trajectory, the regional public-private partnership has strategically aligned with **AccelerateMS**, the state's lead workforce office, to deepen investment in talent development and strengthen career pipelines across the Delta Labor Shed.

AccelerateMS's mission to streamline and enhance workforce development systems statewide provides critical alignment and resources for the P3's targeted focus on energy, advanced manufacturing, and aerospace. Recognizing the Delta's unique challenges and potential, Accelerate Mississippi has invested directly in this regional P3 by supporting talent pipeline programs and deploying **Career Navigators** to ensure more Mississippians—especially rural, first-generation, and underemployed populations—can chart and complete a path to meaningful work.

Elijah Brown **returned to college with a focused goal: to gain the skills and credentials needed for a lasting career in Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC).**

He enrolled in Coahoma Community College's HVAC program, where his dedication and perseverance—alongside strong instructor support—led him to earn his EPA Certification and successfully graduate.

To deepen his practical experience, Brown participated in real-world HVAC projects across campus during the summer. He applied classroom knowledge to hands-on tasks like system troubleshooting, installation, and maintenance, building both confidence and technical expertise. His journey reflects the transformative power of technical education and the value of lifelong learning.

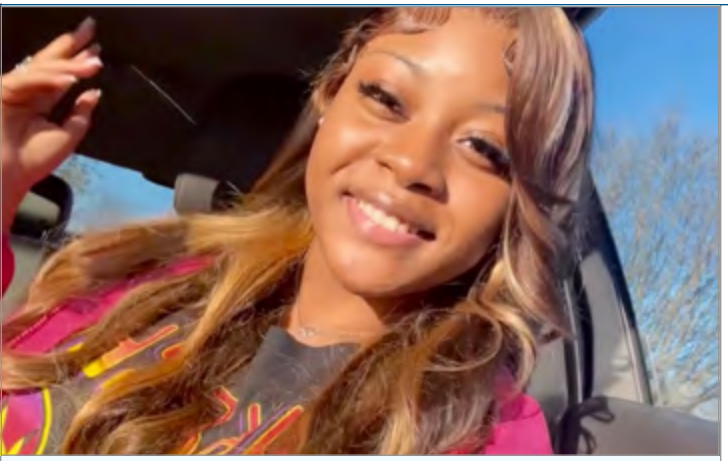
During PY24, in addition to the WIOA funding allocation of **$4,708,300**, Delta received funding from AccelerateMS for MS Works, Career Coach and Recompete grants; MDHS for Career STEP; Rural LISC; Delta Compass; Delta Health Alliance; and Governor's Discretionary grants totaling more than **$7.6 million**.

Adult and Dislocated Worker Program services are provided through subgrants with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security who operates WJCs in Clarksdale, Cleveland, Greenville, Greenwood and Indianola until it closed; and Northwest MS Community College who operates the WIN Job Center in Batesville. Services include Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), On-the-Job Training (OJT), Customized Training, Nurse Externships, Apprenticeships, supportive services, and Individual Training Accounts (ITAs). This coordination of funds helps to reduce duplication and leverage existing resources for similar training needs.

The Greenville WIN Job Center (WJC) is the comprehensive center for the Delta. WIOA core partners physically housed in the Greenville WJC include MDHS, MDRS, Adult Education, and MDES. The Greenville location was changed in March 2024 to reduce costs and provide a better customer experience. All other WJCs in the Delta are affiliate centers. The Lexington WIN Job Center was closed in 2024 and Indianola was closed in late June 2025.

WIOA services were provided through subgrants with the following agencies and organizations:

- Bolivar County Community Action Agency (BCCAA) - Youth
- Coahoma Community College (CCC) - Youth
- EMI Staffing and TempStaff – Career Coach
- Mid-State Opportunity, Inc. (MSO) - Youth
- Mississippi Department of Employment Security – One-Stop Operator and Training Provider
- Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC) – Lineman Program
- Mississippi Hospital Association (MHA) – Nurse Extern Program
- North Panola Career and Technical Center - Youth
- Northwest MS Community College (NWCC) – One-Stop Operator and Training Provider
- Sunflower-Humphreys Counties Progress, Inc. (SHCPI) - Youth
- Warren, Washington, Issaquena, Sharkey Community Action Agency (WWISCAA) - Youth



Jamya Jones began her college journey uncertain about her path.

Initially considering pre-nursing, she soon discovered a deeper calling and enrolled in the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at Coahoma Community College. Despite the challenges, she completed the program through resilience and support from her instructors.

Her dedication paid off when she passed the NCLEX exam on her first attempt—after just 85 questions. Now pursuing her Registered Nurse (RN) degree at Delta State University, Jamya also works part-time at Delta Health and Rehab Nursing Home, gaining hands-on experience while continuing to grow as a caregiver.

Her story reflects determination, growth, and the power of perseverance. What began with uncertainty has become a confident pursuit of a meaningful career in healthcare.

Partnerships Aligned with WIOA Goals

Partnerships are the backbone of all training efforts in the Delta, including all combined plan partners, through referrals to the various programs offered. Coordinated efforts are made to provide services to specific populations served by plan partners using braided funding from various sources – federal, state, local and private. These partnerships are essential in developing relationships to connect Delta residents to good jobs, now and in the future. The Delta's focus on Advanced Manufacturing, Agribusiness, Health Care, Energy, Aviation and Information Technology; along with AccelerateMS' Priority Sectors, helps to ensure we are meeting the demands of the future and providing quality training where the jobs are.

The DWDA works with all four community colleges in the service area to provide training for in-demand occupations such as the industry-recognized apprenticeship program (AMP) with NWCC and MDCC's lineman training program and fiber construction training program as well as Delta State University's Aerial Applicator Training Program.

All efforts by the Delta staff and partners are geared towards creating a workforce ecosystem where everything is aligned to ensure that all Deltans have the opportunity to be work or career ready to support themselves and their families.

NORTHWEST
MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MISSISSIPPI DELTA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Youth Services

With healthcare as a DWDA targeted industry sector, we expanded our partnership horizon by collaborating and partnering with an additional healthcare training facility to provide training in the areas of nurse assistant, CNA and phlebotomy. Also, dental assistant was offered for the first time with a current healthcare partner. We have continued our success in offering trainings in welding, pharmacy technology, general construction/welding fabrication and forklift operator. Numerous participants have been assisted with transitioning to postsecondary education with majors in our targeted industry sectors. The vision is for them to gain successful employment in the DWDA.

We served a total of 605 participants of which 300 were newly enrolled, and 305 received follow-up services. Of the 300 newly enrolled participants, 231 participated in work experience whereby DWDA successfully met the 20% expenditure requirement for work experience.

The Delta provides **Small Business Development/Entrepreneurial/Self-Employment Training** to area residents and WIOA customers in accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) TEGL12-10, "Supporting Entrepreneurial and Self-Employment Training through the Workforce Investment System." This program addresses the role the workforce investment system plays in support of entrepreneurial activities. Activities are coordinated with Small Business loans, banks, and SDPDD's loan program.

During PY24, the Delta's Small Business Developer provided counseling to 98 clients and had 10 loans approved through SDPDD, the CARES Act, banks, The Renaissance Community Loan Fund, and others totaling

Ivy Wade **enrolled in the WIOA Out-of-School program during Program Year 2024 and is currently in the Follow-Up phase.**

In January, she began Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) classes and successfully completed the program. She is now preparing for her CNA certification exam.

Despite lacking a strong support system, Ivy was motivated by her sibling with special needs to pursue a career in healthcare. She completed all of her WorkKeys assignments and participated in a work experience placement at CVS Pharmacy, which she completed successfully.

Most recently, Ivy was hired by the Warren-Washington-Issaquena-Sharkey Community Action Agency as a Personal Care Assistant, where she provides individualized care to her assigned clients. Her journey from program participant to colleague has been remarkable, and her team is extremely proud of her accomplishments.

$1.8 million. The Small Business Developer works closely with Communities Unlimited - referring applicants who may not qualify for any of SDPDD's loans - to their loan programs and The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis as a lending resource.

TANF Workforce Training Employment Grant – Career STEP provides case management and workforce training services through Career STEP Navigators at NWCC, CCC and the Greenville, Greenwood, and Cleveland WJCs, to eligible individuals throughout the 14 counties. This program provided activities including Job Search, Smart Start, Career Coaching, Credit and non-Credit Training, WorkKeys Testing for the National Career Readiness Certificate, and Supportive Services to eligible participants. Coordination and partnerships of this program with WIOA, Community Colleges, Adult Education, and others help to prevent duplication of services and enable the DWDA to provide workforce services to more individuals. 3,000+ services were provided to more than 400 Career STEP clients this year.

Career Coach Program — With funding of $1,125,000 from AccelerateMS, 24 Career Coaches were deployed in 26 High Schools in the Delta area. These coaches work with high school juniors and seniors to help them identify career pathways in the current target sectors for each ecosystem. Partnerships were developed with community colleges, universities and businesses throughout the 14-county area to expose students to education and employment opportunities available to them. Activities included one-on-one meetings with students and parents; assistance in applying for work-based learning opportunities; occupational exploration; assistance in understanding essential skills necessary for success; creation of an online profile in MS Works and much more. More than 5,000 services were provided to students during the program.

The Electrical Lineman Training Program was developed and first funded in August 2010 in response to energy company needs and has continued with two classes per year since then. This program is a collaborative effort with the workforce area, MDCC, AccelerateMS, MDES, Delta EPA, Coahoma EPA, Twin County EPA, Tallahatchie Valley EPA, Entergy, city utility programs, and utility construction companies throughout the state. The 16-week program prepares participants to become linemen trainees with local energy companies and energy construction contractors and is one of the most successful programs ever implemented in the Mississippi Delta.

Classes 29 and 30 completed the program in PY24. A total of 503 trainees have completed the program since it began; with a 95% placement rate.

AccelerateMS — Grants from the MS Works Workforce Training Fund provided workforce training services, including OJT, Internships, and Customized Training, totaling $4.4 million for the following companies:

- Viking/Lynx Grills
- Greenville Kearns Aviation Maintenance
- Baxter Healthcare
- Robinson Electric
- Lockers Manufacturing
- Yancey Engineering
- Inca Presswood
- ACI Building Systems
- Advance Turbine Training
- GE Aerospace
- Multi-Company OJT

ACCELERATE MS

Multi-Company OJT ended in December, 2024 and four others ended in June, 2025.

David Thomas

enrolled in the WIOA In-School Pharmacy Tech program on February 24, 2025.

He was a high school senior, excelling academically but experiencing stress and anxiety. Motivated by a significant health challenge, he aimed to build a career in healthcare and successfully completed the Pharmacy Tech program. Despite missing some school days due to medical appointments, he consistently stayed up to date with his coursework and graduated from Leland High School in May.

Currently, David is undergoing bone marrow transplant procedures, having recently spent several months preparing for a transplant expected to require a prolonged recovery period. Although his illness affects his spiritual and mental health, his determination to pursue a healthcare career remains strong.

David's long-term goal is to become a nurse, and he was accepted into a nursing program. However, he has been forced to place that on hold, as he says, "for a lil' while." During his hospitalization, he is studying for the Pharmacy Tech certification test. Nurses also assisted him in enrolling in a Phlebotomy program to help him stay active. Supported by a strong network, David exemplifies courage and resilience. As he enters WIOA follow-up, his supporters express pride in accompanying him on his journey.

Layoff Aversion Plan – In alignment with the State Plan, the DWDA Board implemented a continuum of layoff aversion strategies and activities to assist employers and workers in the Delta.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Strategic Planning
- Business Outreach
- Economic Analysis
- Linkages
- Performance Data and Tracking

TRAINING TO INCLUDE:

- Upgrade OJT
- Customized Training
- Apprenticeship, Pre-apprenticeship or industry recognized apprenticeship
- Internships and ITAs

Rapid Response and Job Fairs

The DWDA is part of the Rapid Response Team that MDES's Office of Grant Management mobilizes when a business in the Delta experiences a layoff or closure. The Rapid Response Team, which includes representatives of key local and state agencies, works with the employer business to provide the assistance and services needed for the affected workers. The Rapid Response Team in the Delta was only mobilized one time in PY 2024, which was for The Finch Henry Job Corps Center in Batesville, MS due to projected program elimination at the federal level, although that closure has not materialized at this point.

The DWDA also works closely with businesses, the local WIN Job Centers, and The Governor's Job Fair Network of Mississippi regarding job fairs that connect job seekers with available jobs in the area. In PY 2024, 3,803 Delta residents attended job fairs that resulted in 801 job offers.

The **Nurse Extern Program** through the MS Hospital Association provided 20 nursing students entering their final year of nursing school a 320-hour internship program at a local hospital with a nursing preceptor. Students from Delta State University, MDCC, Holmes Community College and Alcorn State University participated in the program. The seven hospitals who served as worksites and provided preceptors and training included Bolivar Medical Center, Delta Health Systems, Greenwood Leflore Hospital, North Sunflower Medical Center, Northwest MS Regional Medical Center, South Sunflower County Hospital and Tallahatchie General Hospital. This is a great work experience opportunity for the students and provides the hospital with a chance to recruit new nurses.

New and Different — In a bold step toward economic revitalization and workforce modernization, a strategic public-private partnership (P3) was launched between SDPDD and Delta Compass, with key collaboration from MDCC, DSU, and leading regional industries. This initiative is designed to align workforce systems in the Mississippi Delta region around three of its most promising economic sectors: energy, advanced manufacturing, and aerospace.

This work was partially funded by a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Recompete Strategy Development Grant. The project, titled Mississippi Alliance for Targeted Career Help, aims to activate a regional coalition of public and private partners to address key indicators of economic distress. The initiative also seeks to identify infrastructure needs and align complementary education and training efforts that prepare the prime-age workforce for good jobs in healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and information technology. Delta received a $100,000 Recompete MATCH grant from MDES for this project.

Lamareya Williams **enrolled in the WIOA Out-of-School Program operated by Sunflower-Humphreys Counties Progress, Inc. (SHCPI) on August 16, 2024.**

At the time, she was actively seeking employment but had difficulty finding a job after graduating from Gentry High School on May 24, 2024. Although she intended to pursue higher education, she was undecided about which college to attend and what major to choose. She expressed a need for career guidance and college assistance, and showed a particular interest in welding.

SHCPI supported her in exploring career options, including the use of the Transfr VR (Virtual Reality) headset for immersive career exploration. The organization also assisted her with college admission, registration, and completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Lamareya subsequently enrolled in the welding program at Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC).

She completed work readiness training and began a 200-hour clerical aide placement at Lean On Me, LLC through the WIOA Program. Her supervisor, Latoya Rush, introduced her to personal care assistance, which sparked Lamareya's interest. She completed training, earned certification, and was hired full-time as a Personal Care Assistant after finishing her placement. Around the same time, she also earned a one-year welding certificate from MDCC.

Working with the Washington County Economic Alliance and a private contractor, we developed educational materials for partners and employers to better tell our story. “Work in the Delta” and “Let’s Work Y’all” brochures, notebooks, pens, rack cards and folders with single sheets of all the workforce programs in the Delta are phenomenal and have been a big hit with our partners and employers.

New and Different — In an effort to humanize our programs and provide information that is not just data and numbers and reports, we have started inviting participants from the various programs to speak at our quarterly board meetings. These individuals and their stories of how the Delta has helped them succeed really resonate with board members, partners and employers.

Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and Governor’s Discretionary Grant – The Delta’s apprenticeship programs expanded with funding from the Governor’s Discretionary Funds and AccelerateMS. These funds were used to support Class 3 of the Ag Pilot RAP at Delta State University and to start a RAP with Robinson Electric. The Robinson Electric RAP is in partnership with MDCC and Build Mississippi, with Class 1 completing in May, 2025 and Class 2 scheduled to start in October, 2025.

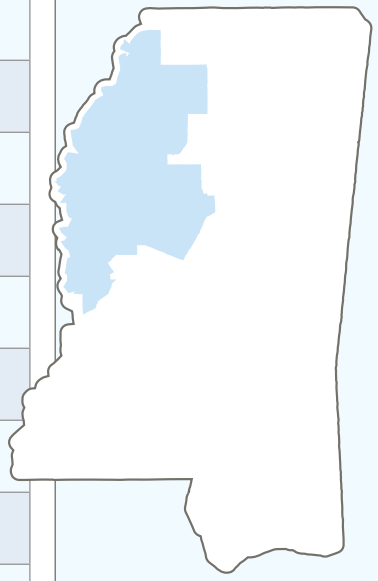
Delta Aerial Applicator (Ag Pilot) Training Program – In partnership with Delta State University, the Aerial Applicator Training Program (Ag Pilot) trained its 3rd class of Ag Pilots in the Mississippi Delta. With a $2 million appropriation from Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith and additional funding from AccelerateMS and the Governor’s Discretionary fund, the 3rd class of eight Ag Pilots started in October, 2024 and graduated in May, 2025. This program, not only the first of its kind in Mississippi, but also in the country, will provide farmers with qualified Aerial Applicators to meet their demands. Pilots with a Private Pilot License, 100 hours of flying time, 50 hours of tail-wheel time and a private sponsor are eligible to participate. Students in the program received their commercial license, instrument rating, a turbine engine endorsement, lightbar training, general agricultural aviation training, chemical and pesticide endorsements and flight time to bring their total flying time to 250 hours. Immediately upon graduation, the Ag Pilots started jobs with various aerial applicators across the country. This program has been recognized nationally and featured in several Ag magazines. Students who complete this program have obtained jobs making $75,000 to $125,000 right out of school

Further expanding on the aviation sector, Delta is working to support Greenville Kearns Aviation Maintenance (GKAM), through MDCC and AccelerateMS, to provide training opportunities in airframe sheet metal, avionics electrical systems, and aviation maintenance to skill up and prepare for GKAM’s upcoming aviation modification assignments. The Greenville Mid-Delta Airport hangars are being refurbished and brought up to US Department of Defense (DOD) standards to prepare for the training and creation of approximately 200 new jobs in aviation.

Ag Pilot Simulator – Funds have been appropriated to purchase an Ag Pilot simulator, specifically for the program at Delta State University. This state-of-the-art simulator will be custom built for the Ag industry, targeting the AT-802 aircraft. CATI Training Systems of Ozark, Alabama is building the simulator. It is expected to be completed by March, 2026. ■

WIOA Title I — Performance Information: Delta Local Workforce Development Area

Delta LWDA Reported Information	Negotiated Performance Level	Actual Performance Level
Adult Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	90.0%	92.1%
Adult Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	89.4%	91.7%
Adult Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$7,497	$8,346
Adult Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	76.0%	85.3%
Adult Measurable Skill Gain	64.2%	80.9%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	78.8%	86.0%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	79.3%	84.6%
Dislocated Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$6,868	$7,670
Dislocated Worker Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	75.2%	70.0%
Dislocated Worker Measurable Skill Gain	66.8%	83.3%
Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	86.8%	91.8%
Youth Employment Rate 4th Quarter Exit	85.7%	88.8%
Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$3,390	$3,431
Youth Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	82.3%	85.7%
Youth Measurable Skill Gain	65.7%	96.5%



The Mississippi Partnership Local Workforce Development Area

THREE RIVERS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Overview

Three Rivers Planning & Development District, Inc. (TRPDD) serves as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent for the Mississippi Partnership Local Workforce Development Area (MS Partnership), which spans 27 counties across northern and northeastern Mississippi—making it the state's largest geographically defined workforce area.

The Division of Workforce Development at TRPDD oversees the administration and coordination of WIOA programs, along with other workforce initiatives such as the AccelerateMS Career Coach Initiative, TANF Career STEP, Upskill Mid-South, and PROWD programs. By managing these programs collectively, TRPDD ensures a coordinated approach that addresses the evolving needs of local businesses and industries while equipping participants with the skills, training, and support necessary to secure meaningful employment. This integrated strategy enables the MS Partnership to maximize resources, align workforce efforts across multiple programs, and create pathways that benefit both employers and job seekers.

TRPDD's success is built on a strong Workforce Board and collaborative relationships with community colleges, the Mississippi Department of Employment Security, other planning and development districts, and Core Partners. Active participation in local economic development councils further strengthens these efforts. These partnerships are essential for aligning resources, strategies, and programs to effectively meet regional workforce needs.

WIN Job Center Locations

Amory
662-407-1235
Highland Drive
P.O. Box 415
Amory, MS 38821-0415

Attala County
662-289-2535
254 Hwy 12 West
Kosciusko, MS 39090

The Communiversity
662-243-1751
7003 South Frontage Road
Columbus MS 39701

Corinth
662-696-2336
2759 S. Harper Road
Corinth, MS 38834-2050

Desoto County
662-280-6218
NWCC Desoto Campus
WIN Job Center
Room # 300-L
5197 W. E. Ross Parkway
Southaven, MS 38671

Grenada
662-226-2911
1229-A Sunset Drive
Grenada, MS 38901

Louisville
662-773-5051
790 N. Court Ave.
Louisville, MS 39339-2059

Marshall County Workforce Training Center
662-851-4190
4700 Cayce Road
Byhalia, MS 38611

New Albany
662-692-1502
301 North St.
New Albany, MS 38652

Oxford
662-236-7201
1310 Belk Blvd.
Oxford, MS 38655

Pontotoc
662-407-1226
316 Coffee Street
Pontotoc, MS 38863

Tupelo/Belden
662-842-4371 and
662-407-1213
3200 Adams Farm Road,
Suite 4
Belden, MS 38826

NOTE: WIN Job Center location information is subject to change.
For the most current information, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov

LWDA Interesting Fact

James "Jim" Weatherly was born in 1943 in Pontotoc, Mississippi.

He was not only a talented singer-songwriter but also a standout quarterback at Ole Miss. Drafted by the Cleveland Browns in 1962, he chose to pursue a career in music instead of football—a decision that led to the creation of timeless songs.

Gladys Knight & the Pips recorded thirteen of his songs, including the Grammy-winning 1999 classic "Midnight Train to Georgia." Jim was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame (2006), the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame (2006), and the Songwriters Hall of Fame (2014). He was also named ASCAP's Country Songwriter of the Year in 1974 and received the 2014 Mississippi Governor's Award for Excellence in Music.

Our workforce services are designed to respond directly to business demands by providing a pipeline of skilled talent, while also helping local residents become work- or career-ready. TRPDD's goal is to empower individuals with the skills needed to achieve self-sufficiency and to support the economic growth of our communities.

In Program Year 2024, more than $7 million in WIOA funding was allocated to service providers supporting youth, adult, and dislocated worker programs. The Mississippi Partnership prioritizes high-demand sectors—including Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Information Technology, Logistics (Transportation and Distribution), and Energy—ensuring that workforce initiatives align with regional economic priorities and that both employers and workers have access to the talent needed for success.

WIOA services were provided through the following agencies and organizations during PY 2024:

Youth Service Providers

- East Mississippi Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Golden Triangle Planning & Development District
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College

Adult/Dislocated Worker Service Providers

- East Mississippi Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Mississippi Department of Employment Security
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College

WIN Job Centers — In Program Year (PY) 2024, the Mississippi Partnership oversaw one Sector Training Plus Comprehensive WIN Job Center and ten Affiliate WIN Job Centers.

The **Tupelo/Belden Center**, designated as the Sector Training Plus Comprehensive WIN Job Center, serves as a central hub for workforce services by integrating multiple state and local partners. Co-located agencies include the Mississippi Department of Employment Security, the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), and the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS). Itawamba Community College (ICC) provides WIOA Career and Training Services—including Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Out-of-School Youth programs—as well as Adult Education Services and both credit and non-credit training programs.

***Sammie Golliday*, 57, was laid off from a manufacturing job in October 2024.**

While facing delays with unemployment benefits, he began exploring new career options and visited the Grenada WIN Job Center. Interested in earning a Class B CDL to drive school buses, Sammie worked with the Individual Training Account (ITA) Coordinator at the Grenada WIN Job Center to identify training opportunities.

He chose CRW Truck Driving Training School in Jackson, MS, which met both his training and housing needs. With an ITA grant from Three Rivers Planning and Development District, his tuition was fully covered. The ITA Coordinator also provided ongoing WIOA case management to support him throughout the process.

By December 2024, Sammie had completed training and earned his Class B CDL with a passenger (P) endorsement. He later added a school bus (S) endorsement in April 2025. In August, he began working as a Head Start bus driver in a rural area, finding both stability and fulfillment in his new role. Sammie expressed sincere gratitude the WIN Job Center team for their guidance and support during his transition to a new career.

Through this integrated, one-stop approach, the Belden WIN Job Center connects individuals to a full range of services, from job search assistance to two-year associate degree opportunities.

In addition, the Mississippi Partnership (MPWDA) operates **ten Affiliate WIN Job Centers** strategically located across the region to ensure broad access to workforce services. Each affiliate center includes at least two core partners, reinforcing the commitment to coordinated, accessible support for both job seekers and employers throughout the 27-county area.

All WIN Job Centers serve both individuals and businesses, offering access to employment and training opportunities while encouraging employers to utilize the centers for networking and talent recruitment. In PY 2024, the centers served over **1,800 adults** and **930 dislocated workers** through WIOA programs. Additionally, **780 individuals** benefited from on-the-job training (OJT), individual training accounts (ITAs), apprenticeships, and internships.

The Mississippi Partnership continued its collaboration with local governments and community colleges to maintain accessible WIN Job Center locations, focusing WIOA resources on staffing and training services. The Mississippi Partnership Workforce Development Board mandates that at least **50% of WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker funds** be allocated to participant training costs. Reflecting this priority, approximately **$1.6 million** in WIOA funds was invested in PY 2024 to train adults and dislocated workers in high-demand sectors such as Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Information Technology, Logistics – Transportation and Distribution, and Energy.

The Partnership also maintains strong relationships with the region's community colleges. **East Mississippi, Itawamba, Northeast, and Northwest Community Colleges** serve 21 counties and play a key leadership role in workforce council meetings and WIOA initiatives. WIOA staff, community colleges, and economic developers regularly meet with prospective businesses considering locating in the region, offering a coordinated workforce training package that strengthens business recruitment. When employers identify additional training needs, the workforce system and community colleges often pool resources to meet those demands. Leveraging OJT and customized training (CT) has proven to be an effective strategy for supporting existing businesses and attracting new employers to the area.

Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program

The **Mississippi Partnership Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (MPIRAP)** is a locally developed, earn-while-you-learn initiative that combines classroom instruction with paid, hands-on experience. Apprentices are enrolled in career and technical programs at partner community colleges while working for local employers in their field of study.

To support employer participation, the program reimburses **50% of an apprentice's wages** (up to **$6,000 per program year**, for a maximum of two years). Funding is made possible through a collaboration between **AccelerateMS** and the **MS Partnership**, with each contributing half of the reimbursement costs.

MPIRAP equips participants with the knowledge and skills needed to secure high-demand, high-wage careers while helping businesses expand their skilled workforce, close talent gaps, and strengthen on-the-job training pipelines. The program is fully aligned with the MS Partnership's five target industry sectors and is delivered in partnership with **East Mississippi, Itawamba, Northeast Mississippi, and Northwest Mississippi Community Colleges**.

Currently, the fields of study at local community colleges include programs such as:

- Mechatronics
- Industrial Maintenance Technology
- Information Systems Technology
- Drafting
- Design and 3D Modeling Technology
- Precision Manufacturing and Machining Technology
- Welding and Cutting Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Diesel Equipment/Power Technology.

To join the MPIRAP, students must be recommended by their community college instructors, interview with and be selected by a partnering business, and maintain good academic standing.

In PY 2024, the program supported **147 apprentices** and partnered with **85 businesses**, reflecting strong growth in employer engagement and workforce development.

After working in restaurants since high school, *Kenya Kizart* came to the NWCC WIN Job Center ready for a career change.

She enrolled in the Medical Office Technology program at Northwest Mississippi Community College to pursue her goal of working in the medical field, focusing on billing, coding, and office operations.

Upon graduating, Kenya was equipped with the knowledge needed for a healthcare office role but lacked hands-on experience. Referred by her instructor, she connected with staff at the WIN Job Center, who helped her explore opportunities through a Governor's Discretionary Grant for Out-of-School Youth.

Within days of enrolling, Kenya interviewed at Keep on Smiling Dentistry in Southaven, MS. With support from the WIOA team, she transitioned smoothly from a work experience placement to full-time employment. Today, Kenya is gainfully employed and financially stable, crediting the WIOA Gateway Out-of-School Youth Program, the Governor's Discretionary Grant, and Keep on Smiling Dentistry for helping her achieve her career goals.

After being laid off from Navistar in the fall of 2023, *Keon* visited the Communiversity seeking financial assistance to enroll in the short-term Welding Program at East Mississippi Community College, scheduled to begin in January 2024. Although he had previous welding experience at Navistar, he learned that other employers required additional, specialized welding skills for consideration.

Following a meeting with the Welding Program coordinator and acceptance into the class, Keon was approved for an Individual Training Account (ITA) under the WIOA Dislocated Worker program.

He successfully completed the program in February 2024, earning a certificate of completion. Shortly after, Keon interviewed with Plum Creek Environmental in West Point, MS, and was hired as a welder. He began his new role in March 2024. Keon expressed gratitude for the support he received through the WIOA funding, which enabled him to gain the skills needed to reenter the workforce and advance his career.

Job Fairs

The Mississippi Partnership, in collaboration with the Governor's Job Fair Network, MDES, WIN Job Centers, economic developers, and local businesses, hosted seven job fairs across the region. These events connected over **1,600 job seekers** with **210 employers** actively hiring.

MDES outreach to individuals receiving or recently exhausting unemployment benefits helped boost attendance. The Mississippi Partnership remains committed to supporting job fairs that connect Mississippians with meaningful employment opportunities.

Job Fair	Registered Employers	Job Applicants	On-Site Interviews	Job Offers Extended
Southaven - 8/15/2024	**57**	**475**	**462**	**266**
EMCC - 9/10/2024	**40**	**330**	**183**	**44**
Marshall County - 10/22/2024	**30**	**200**	*NA*	*NA*
Louisville - 3/13/2025	**32**	**210**	**62**	**42**
New Albany - 4/15/2025	**21**	**150**	**96**	**41**
Amory - 5/15/2025	**8**	**34**	*NA*	*NA*
Tupelo - 6/26/2025	**26**	**250**	**191**	**63**

NA - Not Available

Layoff Aversion/Rapid Response

The Mississippi Partnership maintains a strong layoff aversion and rapid response strategy aligned with the State Plan. Layoff aversion activities aim to prevent or minimize unemployment, while rapid response services provide immediate support and resources to workers and businesses affected by layoffs or closures. Services include:

- Strategic planning
- Business outreach
- Economic analysis
- Connecting businesses with economic development resources, including financial planning, technology support, marketing, and job training
- Performance data tracking and outcome measurement
- Access to training services such as On-the-Job Training, customized training, apprenticeships, internships, and Individual Training Accounts to support layoff aversion or rapid reemployment

The Mississippi Partnership plays an active role on the Rapid Response Team, which includes representatives from the MS Partnership, WIN Job Centers, MDES, local community colleges, and Unemployment Insurance. Together, the team meets with

affected employees to provide information on job search assistance, résumé and interview workshops, current job openings, education and training opportunities, and unemployment benefits.

The goal is to support individuals through workforce transitions and help them return to meaningful employment as quickly as possible.

In PY 2024, the Rapid Response Team served **778 employees** and **9 businesses** impacted by layoffs or closures.

WIOA Youth Programs

The Mississippi Partnership's WIOA Youth Program, known locally as the **Gateway Program**, prepares eligible youth for the workforce by providing essential job skills, career awareness, counseling, and support in developing clear career pathways. Participants are introduced to opportunities in the Partnership's five target industry sectors:

1. Advanced Manufacturing
2. Healthcare
3. Information Technology
4. Logistics (Warehousing, Transportation, and Distribution)
5. Energy

GATEWAY
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

The program emphasizes early engagement, helping youth build strong work ethics and explore careers aligned with regional economic priorities. Local employers consistently stress the importance of soft skills—such as attendance, attitude, and teamwork—which are integrated into Gateway programming to ensure participants are workforce-ready.

In PY 2024, the MPWDA worked with a network of **four out-of-school youth providers** and **one in-school provider** across the 27-county workforce area. This network ensured WIOA-eligible youth had access to a wide range of services:

- **388 youth** were actively served
- **372 youth** received follow-up services
- Over **65% of active youth** gained paid work experience
- More than **$809,750** was invested in youth work experience

These efforts not only supported youth participants but also ensured the Mississippi Partnership met all WIOA performance indicators.

Brooke Talley **chose a different path to success.**

Traditional high school didn't align with her goals, so she made the bold decision to enroll in Northeast Adult Education and the Gateway program—a choice that transformed her future.

At Northeast, Brooke thrived in an environment that played to her strengths. She earned both her WorkKeys certification and High School Equivalency diploma, gaining confidence and a clearer sense of direction with each achievement.

Her hard work led to an internship in Human Resource Development at Refrigerated Solutions Master-Bilt, where she now applies her skills in a real-world setting. Brooke is learning how to support employees, manage workplace processes, and contribute to a positive company culture.

What began as a leap of faith became a journey of growth and opportunity. Brooke's story shows that success isn't about following one path—it's about creating your own and making the most of every step.

***Tylan*, a junior at Starkville High School, joined the WIOA Gateway In-School Program in Fall 2024.**

After completing six hours of essential job skills training, he began an internship at The Welding Works in Starkville, pursuing his goal of becoming a certified welder like his grandfather. He had already taken welding classes at Millsaps Career & Technology Center and saw the internship as a valuable next step.

The owner of The Welding Works was quickly impressed and encouraged Tylan to purchase a welding hood and his supervisor recommended a specific model and supplier. The Gateway Program Director contacted the company to ask about educational discounts. After learning about the program, the company requested a handwritten essay from Tylan explaining his goals. He submitted the essay, and shortly after, received the welding hood. Tylan was thrilled and sent a thank-you letter in return.

Tylan worked mornings and afternoons during his internship and his supervisors praised his work ethic and how well he fit in with the team. As a result, he was offered a part-time job during the school year, with expanded hours planned for summer.

Tylan expressed gratitude for the Gateway Program and the opportunities it provided. We are proud of his accomplishments and excited to see what he achieves next.

High School Career Coaches

Three Rivers Planning & Development District (TRPDD) was awarded a **$5.67 million grant** from AccelerateMS to continue the Career Coach Program in the Mississippi Partnership area. In collaboration with local school districts, TRPDD placed **78 Career Coaches** across **73 high schools**, representing 40 school districts within the 27-county service area. The program is managed by **two Career Coach Managers** who oversee implementation and support.

The mission of the initiative is to expose, prepare, and connect students to career pathways both inside and outside the classroom, ensuring every graduate leaves high school with a defined career success plan.

Career Coaches work closely with students and their families to provide guidance on education and career opportunities in Mississippi, supporting their transition from high school to college and/or the workforce.

Regional community colleges have reported increased enrollment in two-year career and technical programs, attributing this growth in part to the influence of Career Coaches.

Highlights from the 2023–2024 School Year:

- 19,729 one-on-one student visits covering topics such as career planning, postsecondary options, job applications, and job shadowing
- 2,749 MS Works enrollments, with Career Coaches assisting students in completing their online profiles
- 1,679 FAFSA completions, helping students apply for college financial aid
- 14,724 parent/guardian meetings to discuss students' career planning
- 145,724 group/class meetings, including guest speakers and sessions on career exploration, financial literacy, job readiness, and resume/interview skills
- 371 EPIC internships secured, providing over 33,600 hours of work experience and $496,603 in student wages. These internships allowed students to explore career paths and assess alignment with their goals.

Career STEP Program

In partnership with the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), TRPDD administers the **Career STEP** program in the MPWDA. The program serves custodial and non-custodial

parents aged 18–59 who are unemployed or underemployed and have household incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level. Career STEP provides access to education, training, and employment opportunities across the 27-county region.

To deliver these services, TRPDD partners with **East Mississippi, Itawamba, Northeast Mississippi, and Northwest Mississippi Community Colleges**, as well as the **Mississippi Department of Employment Security**. Participants receive a comprehensive suite of services, including assessments, career coaching, job search support, education and training, work-based learning, internships, and direct job placement.

Career STEP is a collaborative initiative that unites community colleges, workforce partners, high schools, community-based organizations, and the business community to create clear pathways to economic stability and upward mobility for low-income families. Training opportunities pursued by participants include **Commercial Truck Driving (CDL), Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN), Registered Nursing (RN), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Medical Assistant, Phlebotomy**, and other high-demand healthcare programs.

Each year, Golden Triangle PDD's Gateway program supports youth across seven counties — and this year, *Nakiya* stood out. A senior at West Lowndes High School, Nakiya joined the Gateway program in spring 2025. As a single parent from a single-parent home, she faced challenges — but never let them hold her back. Eager to begin workforce training, she balanced school, parenting, a part-time job, and an internship, graduating with honors.

Her internship at Bright Stars Learning II Center was a success. Her supervisor praised her as dependable, hardworking, and a natural with children. She was hired after completing the program. Nakiya plans to join the National Guard and dreams of owning a business. Her drive and determination make her a true success story.

TRPDD also partners with the **Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative (MLICCI)** to connect single mothers with childcare assistance, helping remove barriers to workforce participation.

Since its launch in 2020, Career STEP has served more than **3,000 participants** across the MPWDA, equipping families with the tools and support needed to secure sustainable careers in demand-driven industries.

Through strong partnerships and effective resource coordination, TRPDD has positioned Career STEP as a leading workforce training program in the region—advancing both family economic security and local industry needs.

Upskill Mid-South

The University of Memphis received a **$21.5 million grant** from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to launch the **Upskill Mid-South** program, serving **42 counties** across Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas. As part of this initiative, the University of Memphis partnered with **Three Rivers Planning & Development District** to implement the program in Mississippi's **14-county service area**, which includes the northern portion of the Mississippi Partnership region.

UPSKILL MID-SOUTH

Upskill Mid-South is designed to address employer-identified skill gaps, meet regional workforce needs, and remove barriers to employment in key industries such as **advanced manufacturing, transportation, logistics, technology, and construction**.

After dropping out of high school, *Jake Freeman* turned to the Gateway Youth Program in Ripley, MS, seeking direction. He knew he needed to earn his High School Equivalency (HSE) but was unsure how to begin.

With support from his Gateway Career Coach, Jake explored his interests and enrolled in the Smart Start course and adult education classes. He completed the course and passed his first HiSET subtest, making progress toward his HSE.

Recognizing Jake's interest in hands-on work, his coach recommended a paid internship at Dees Oil, a local transportation and energy company. There, Jake rotated through roles in energy, transportation, IT, warehousing, and construction. Although staffing rules limited his direct involvement with the construction crew, observing their work sparked a strong interest in the field.

Now focused and motivated, Jake plans to pursue a full-time role in construction with Dees Oil after completing his internship. His journey highlights how guidance, education, and real-world experience can help young people overcome setbacks and find their path forward.

The program targets unemployed and underemployed individuals, offering **accelerated occupational skills training** that delivers the same quality as traditional programs but in a shorter timeframe—typically ranging from **four weeks to six months**. It also provides **incumbent worker training** to help local employers upskill their current workforce.

Through this initiative, TRPDD has trained over **150 participants** in high-demand fields such as **electrical assistant, welding, and commercial truck driving**. Upskill Mid-South has become a valuable component of TRPDD's Division of Workforce Development, helping individuals gain marketable skills, secure employment, and achieve self-sufficiency—while also supporting the talent needs of local businesses.

PROWD Grant

In Program Year 2024, TRPDD was selected to administer the **Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development (PROWD)** program within the Mississippi Partnership. PROWD is a joint initiative of the **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)** and the **U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)** that supports individuals in the custody of the **Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP)**. The program aims to improve employment outcomes, reduce recidivism, and strengthen collaboration between the justice system and the workforce development system.

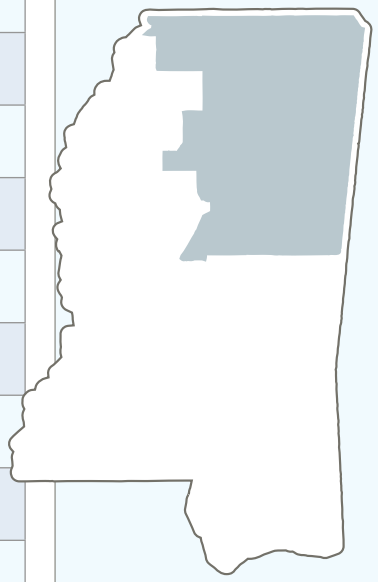
PROWD
Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development

This initiative marks the **first program within the Mississippi Partnership** specifically designed to **serve justice-involved individuals**. Services will be provided to participants residing at the **Dismas Charities Residential Reentry Center (RRC)** in Tupelo, Mississippi, as well as those on home confinement under the Tupelo RRC. TRPDD has established partnerships with **Dismas Charities** and **MAGCOR Industries** to deliver services and training, with enrollment and training scheduled to begin in **PY 2025**.

The PROWD program is designed to support successful reentry by equipping participants with the skills needed for meaningful employment, helping them become active, engaged members of their communities, and reducing the risk of recidivism.

WIOA Title I — Performance Information: Mississippi Partnership Local Workforce Development Area

Mississippi Partnership LWDA Reported Information	Negotiated Performance Level	Actual Performance Level
Adult Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	88.4%	85.6%
Adult Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	89.3%	87.1%
Adult Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$7,699	$7,780
Adult Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	74.0%	77.0%
Adult Measurable Skill Gain	67.0%	75.6%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	78.8%	77.0%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	79.3%	77.6%
Dislocated Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$6,868	$7,225
Dislocated Worker Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	74.6%	76.3%
Dislocated Worker Measurable Skill Gain	66.8%	82.6%
Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	86.8%	87.4%
Youth Employment Rate 4th Quarter Exit	85.7%	88.4%
Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$3,390	$3,807
Youth Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	71.6%	80.9%
Youth Measurable Skill Gain	74.7%	93.6%



South Central Mississippi Works Local Workforce Development Area

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Overview

The **South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)** is committed to building a strong, skilled workforce that meets the evolving needs of employers across its 17-county region. SCMW takes great pride in the robust partnerships and collaborations it has cultivated with workforce, education, and economic development partners. These relationships are instrumental in increasing public awareness of workforce opportunities and ensuring that individuals and businesses can access comprehensive services in a seamless and efficient manner.

WIN Job Center Locations

Brookhaven
601-643-8730
1377 Johnny Johnson Drive
Brookhaven, MS 39602-0790

Jackson
601-414-7796
3925 Sunset Dr.
Jackson, MS 39213

Madison County
601-859-7609
167 North Orchard Lane
Madison, MS 39110

NOTE: WIN Job Center location information is subject to change. For the most current information, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov

McComb
601-684-4421
1400-A Harrison Ave.
McComb, MS 39648

Natchez
601-442-0243
107 Colonel John Pitchford Parkway
P.O. Box 810
Natchez, MS 39121-0810

Pearl
601-936-1903
3805 US-80 East
Pearl, MS 39208

Vicksburg
601-638-1452
755 Hwy 27 S.
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Pulitzer Prize–winning author and photographer Eudora Welty was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi (Hinds County).

Known for her vivid portrayals of Southern life, Welty became one of America's most celebrated writers, earning the Pulitzer Prize for The Optimist's Daughter in 1973. Today, her childhood home stands as the Eudora Welty House & Garden, a National Historic Landmark and literary museum. Visitors from around the world travel to Jackson to walk the same halls where Welty crafted her timeless stories, celebrating her lasting impact on American literature.

SCMW firmly believes that better training builds better careers. Therefore, SCMW collaborates with employers, community colleges, training centers, and high schools to equip job seekers with in-demand skills. SCMW embraces technology to make training more accessible and meaningful. Job Centers and Career Coaches present new possibilities and maintain motivation – because big steps require both direction and courage. SCMW does much more than fill openings, we build opportunities. That is our work. We are committed to doing it right and doing right by our job seekers, industries, communities, and students.

In partnership with **Hinds Community College, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES**), SCMW operates **seven WIN Job Centers** strategically located throughout the region. These centers serve as the front door to the workforce system—connecting job seekers and employers through a wide range of services, including:

- Basic and individualized career exploration and job search assistance
- Access to supportive services through workforce system partners
- Referral to education, training, and employment resources
- Skills development and occupational training aligned to high-demand industries

The **Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD)** serves as the **administrative and fiscal agent** for SCMW, providing oversight, fiscal management, and compliance support to ensure the effective delivery of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs.

The designated comprehensive WIN Job Center for the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Local Workforce Development Area is located in Pearl, Rankin County. This center houses all core workforce partner staff and programs under one roof, ensuring customers can access the full range of workforce services in a single location.

The remaining WIN Job Centers across the 17-county area operate as Affiliate Centers. While core partner staff may not be physically located at these sites, their services remain accessible through technology or by referral, ensuring customers in all communities can connect to the support they need.

All WIN Job Centers—comprehensive and affiliate—offer a full spectrum of workforce services designed to help individuals prepare for, obtain, and advance in employment. Services are tailored based on individual needs and may include:

- Basic Career Services
- Individualized Career Services
- Training Services

OJT, Apprenticeships, and Internships benefit both employers and participants by offsetting the employer's cost of hiring and training an unskilled or under-skilled individual, while ITAs help individuals acquire or enhance job skills needed for in-demand careers.

SOUTH CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI WORKS

About South Central Mississippi Works

South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) is the designated Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) serving a 17-county region in Central Mississippi. **SCMW is responsible for providing workforce development and training activities that:**

- Improve the skills and abilities of workers
- Connect job seekers to permanent employment at self-sustaining wages
- Support the workforce needs of local businesses
- Contribute to the long-term economic growth and competitiveness of area communities

SCMW delivers these services through a **collaborative network of partners** that includes the **Mississippi Department of Employment Security; AccelerateMS; the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS); the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS); the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA); four local community colleges—Hinds, Copiah-Lincoln, Holmes, and Southwest**; and numerous local economic development organizations. Together, these partners provide a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for both job seekers and employers. Services are also available specifically for youth and young adults, with an emphasis on building career pathways, work experience, and supportive services to help them transition into the workforce.

Governance and Oversight

Workforce development efforts in the SCMW area are overseen by two boards:

- The Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB)
- The Board of Commissioners (Local Elected Officials Board)

The LWDB is composed of a majority of private-sector business leaders along with representatives from required WIOA partner programs, community-based organizations, and labor. Members are appointed by the **Board of Commissioners**, which includes one elected official from each of the 17 counties in the SCMW area.

Both boards are established and maintained in full compliance with WIOA requirements and are responsible for:

- Setting workforce policy
- Allocating WIOA resources
- Ensuring programs align with local industry demand
- Overseeing performance outcomes and fiscal accountability

Administrative Structure

The Central Mississippi Planning and Development District serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for SCMW. A dedicated workforce staff of nine supports the LWDB and Board of Commissioners by:

- Overseeing program operations and performance
- Monitoring programmatic activity and fiscal accountability
- Providing Rapid Response services to employers and dislocated workers
- Supporting WIN Job Center operators and service providers
- Delivering ongoing training to front-line WIN Job Center staff on policies, procedures, and service delivery for the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs

Through this coordinated structure, SCMW ensures that workforce services are **responsive to** employer needs, accessible to job seekers, and delivered efficiently and effectively across the entire region.

Local Workforce Development Plan

The State of Mississippi was the first in the nation to submit a workforce development plan under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). As required by WIOA, the South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA) developed and submitted a local workforce development plan to the state to guide service delivery, investments, and outcomes for the region.

The current plan, approved by the Mississippi Department of Employment Security Office of Grant Management, is effective for the period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028. Each year, as required, the SCMW Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) reviews the plan and submits any needed modifications to MDES to ensure continued alignment with federal and state priorities.

The 2024–2025 local plan supports the Career Pathways, Sector Strategies, and Priority Occupation frameworks outlined in the State Plan and describes how required partner programs work together to deliver coordinated, customer-centered services to individuals seeking the skills needed to obtain sustainable employment. The plan also details strategies for addressing the current and emerging workforce needs of local businesses and industry sectors.

In addition to aligning with the Mississippi Combined State Plan, SCMW aligns its WIOA strategies and funding priorities each year with the annual recommendations of the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB). These SWIB recommendations—developed through collaboration with state agencies, industry leaders, and workforce experts—establish statewide priorities for workforce system alignment, employer engagement, career pathway development, and data-driven continuous improvement. SCMW incorporates these recommendations into local planning and investment strategies to ensure that workforce efforts are responsive to employer demand, focused on high-growth sectors, and supportive of equitable access to quality jobs.

Sector Strategy Plan

The South Central Mississippi Works (SCMW) Local Workforce Development Area has conducted an extensive analysis to identify the key industry sectors within the region that present the greatest potential for employment growth and address the most critical workforce needs of employers.

Based on this analysis and ongoing feedback from local industry leaders, SCMW has identified the following target sectors as priorities for workforce investment:

TARGET SECTORS
Advanced Manufacturing
Agribusiness
Information Technology / Data Centers
Energy
Healthcare
Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

During the program year, SCMW has worked diligently to develop and expand training programs and services aligned with these sectors to address skill gaps identified by employers. This is an ongoing, demand-driven effort—while federal WIOA training funds are not limited to use exclusively within these sectors, they are given priority in the design and planning of workforce programs and activities.

SCMW workforce staff continually collaborate with industry representatives to gather feedback on current and emerging workforce needs and to adapt training strategies to meet those needs. These sectors continue to represent high-demand and high-opportunity career pathways across the region.

Alignment to State Priority Occupations

In addition, SCMW aligns all training and service strategies—including Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), On-the-Job Training (OJT), and Internships—with the priority occupations identified by the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) and AccelerateMS.

These occupations represent Mississippi's most critical workforce needs and guide the development of local career pathways.

PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS INCLUDE
1. Commercial Electricians
2. Computer Science Engineers
3. Construction Engineers
4. Data Center Control Technicians
5. Electrical Engineers
6. Emergency Medical Technicians
7. Engineering Technicians
8. Fiber Fusion Splicing Technicians
9. HVAC Technicians
10 Heavy Equipment Operators
11. Industrial Maintenance Technicians
12. Line Workers
13. Logging Equipment Operators
14. Plumbers / Pipefitters
15 Renewable Energy Engineers
16. Waterworks Operators (Certified)

By targeting these sectors and occupations, SCMW ensures that WIOA-funded training leads to high-quality employment outcomes while simultaneously addressing the critical workforce needs of regional employers.

Expanding Access: Launching Digital Delivery of Services and the New SCMW Website

One of the most significant milestones of the year was the launch of **Digital Delivery of WIOA Services**—a transformative step toward increasing access to workforce programs across the South Central Mississippi Works region.

scmw.info

The new **Digital Delivery System**, officially unveiled during a ribbon cutting event in June, gives residents in all 17 counties the ability to **connect with workforce services virtually**, removing barriers related to transportation, distance, and scheduling. Through this system, job seekers can complete intake forms, explore career and training opportunities, and be referred to partner programs—all without needing to visit a physical center. Employers can also connect with workforce staff to post job openings, access recruitment support, and learn about available training resources.

In tandem with this innovation, SCMW also launched its **new website—scmw.info**—to serve as a central hub for workforce information and resources. The site is designed to **be clear, user-friendly, and accessible from any device**, offering quick access to training opportunities, WIN Job Center locations, labor market information, and success stories from across the region.

Together, these efforts represent a major step forward in SCMW's mission to deliver workforce services that are accessible, efficient, and aligned with the needs of both job seekers and employers. By combining physical service delivery through WIN Job Centers with robust digital tools, SCMW is building a more connected and responsive workforce system for Central Mississippi.

SCMW celebrates new website launch—scmw.info

Adult Career Coaches in Action: Turning Opportunity into Outcomes.

In PY24, one of South Central Mississippi Works' greatest assets showed up not in big facilities or flashy ads—but in the steady, personal support offered by Adult Career Coaches. These WIOA-funded professionals are embedded in WIN Job Centers and are focused entirely on helping adults identify their career goals, cut through the confusion, get the training they need, access support services, and ultimately connect to work with purpose. While state-funded programs like Reconnect help create training opportunities, the success of individuals often hinges on the presence of an Adult Career Coach.

One powerful example comes from the Jackson WIN Job Center, where Angela Hayes served as Coach to two participants, Megan Stewart and Justin Dunn, both of whom came to SCMW seeking a fresh start.

Megan had recently become aware of trade-program options and signed up for the Electrical Trade Training through the Build MS Reconnect program. The hands-on nature of the training immediately clicked for her—she found that blueprint reading, wiring circuits, and practical safety work gave her a sense of capability and confidence. But more than the curriculum, what made the difference was Angela, the Adult Career Coach, who guided Megan through every step—keeping her motivated, helping with logistics, ensuring Megan felt welcomed, and pushing when needed.

Pictured: Juan Garcia, Jasiah Lewis, Angela Hayes, Justin Dunn, and Megan Stewart

Justin, a devoted father who had experienced several disruptions in employment, found in Angela not just a coach but a champion. The training class gave him something tangible—learning to wire circuits, build real electrical systems—and through Angela's support, Justin was able to complete the program, restore his confidence, and look forward to career possibilities (including further training or even an apprenticeship).

Because these success stories trace directly to WIOA's adult career and training services: the Adult Career Coach position is financed under WIOA; participant access to career coaching is a core service; training that follows (here, Reconnect Electrical Training) is a WIOA-aligned training opportunity; follow-through and wrap-around supports are part of how WIOA aims to remove barriers to completion and employment.

These stories exemplify what SCMW strives for: turning potential into pathway; not just providing training, but supporting the whole person, removing obstacles (transportation, stigma, self-doubt), and helping people stay the course until success. Thanks to Angela's work, Megan and Justin didn't just complete electrical training—they gained belief in themselves, practical skills in a high-demand field, and momentum toward stable careers.

Rapid Response in Action: Turning Layoff into Lifelong Opportunity

When the Levi's distribution center in Madison County shut down after 18 years, Lorenzo Garrett's future seemed uncertain. But his story turned from setback to breakthrough, thanks in large part to the Rapid Response-style support offered through the South Central Mississippi Works system—especially via WIOA-funded Career Coaches and partnership with industry-aligned training.

Through the WIN Job Center in Pearl, Lorenzo connected with a **WIOA Career Coach** who walked him through the options and helped him access the **Reskill | Relaunch | Reconnect (R3) Program**, funded by **AccelerateMS** in partnership with SCMW. This short-term, intensive training program is designed to equip individuals who have been displaced or laid off with the skills needed to step quickly into high-demand, well-paying careers.

Lorenzo enrolled in HVAC Electrical training at Holmes Community College. Within about eight weeks, he completed the program—earning his **EPA 608 Certification**, a required credential for handling refrigerants in HVAC work. When graduation came, seven of the eight participants passed on their first attempt, and the eighth succeeded shortly afterward after extra coaching—an excellent success rate reflecting both instructor quality and student determination.

At the ceremony, Lorenzo not only celebrated with family but also made important professional connections. Local employers were present, including Hunter Engineering. Lorenzo's skills, paired with the employer engagement built into the R3 program, quickly led to a job offer at Hunter Engineering—one that offers not just immediate income, but room for growth and continued training.

Lorenzo says, "'Being laid off from Levi's was the best thing that ever happened to me… I would have never left a good job for a great job. Now, I can do what I really enjoy doing. I have the option to make more money in this field than I would have ever made at Levi's.'"

His story illustrates the power of Rapid Response and career services under WIOA: identifying displaced workers, connecting them with a coach, offering focused, employer-aligned training and credentials, supporting them through and placing them with employers. For SCMW, partnerships with Holmes Community College, MDES, AccelerateMS, and other workforce stakeholders make this process work in practice—not just in theory.

Success Story: Finding Their People, Finding Their Path

At Raymond High School, seniors **Eric Feresee** and **Quimerius Shelby** found more than a diploma in their final year—they discovered direction, skills, and opportunity. Enrolled in the state-funded Step Up program and supported by a dedicated high school career coach, the two students embarked on a journey that reflects how early career services can align seamlessly with WIOA's career and training framework, ultimately opening the door to advanced training and promising careers.

With guidance from their career coach, **William Martin**, Eric and Quimerius enrolled in the **Basic Manufacturing Skills** training offered through **Hinds Community College**, a short-term technical program designed to build foundational skills for careers in modern manufacturing. They learned blueprint reading, workplace safety, First Aid and CPR, forklift operation, and other core competencies needed in advanced manufacturing environments. As they worked through the program, the students earned industry-recognized credentials and received stipends—supports that mirror the **WIOA training and supportive service model** by helping remove financial barriers that often prevent young people from completing training.

After completing their coursework, both students were placed in **paid internships** at **McNeely Plastics**, where they gained hands-on experience applying their new skills in a real workplace setting. These internships not only gave them technical experience but also built their confidence and understanding of workplace expectations—hallmarks of **WIOA work-based learning opportunities** like internships and on-the-job training.

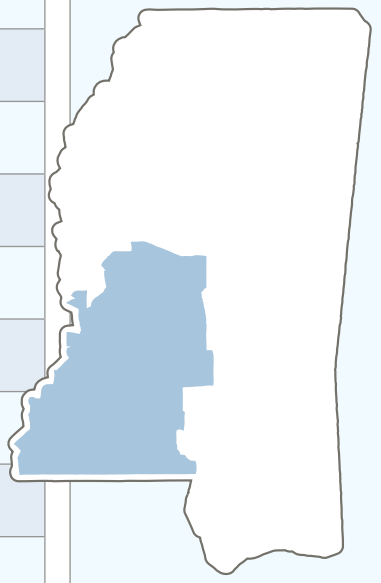
Throughout the process, their career coach was a steady presence. Martin provided more than logistical support; he offered mentorship, exposure to employers, and encouragement when things became difficult. He helped the students see what types of careers could be within their reach and pushed them to achieve more than they believed possible.

Now, both students are looking to the future with clear plans. Eric plans to continue his training at **Hinds Community College in Electromechanical Technology**, building on the skills he developed through the Step Up experience.

Their journey represents exactly what **WIOA career and training services are designed to accomplish**—helping young people explore their interests, build marketable skills, gain work experience, and transition into postsecondary education or employment in high-demand industries. For SCMW, stories like Eric and Quimerius's reflect what true success looks like: not just earning credentials, but building confidence, purpose, and belonging as they step into the workforce of the future.

WIOA Title I — Performance Information: South Central Mississippi Works Local Workforce Development Area

South Central Mississippi Works LWDA Reported Information	Negotiated Performance Level	Actual Performance Level
Adult Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	90.0%	88.3%
Adult Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	89.4%	88.3%
Adult Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$7,699	$10,452
Adult Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	71.0%	59.3%
Adult Measurable Skill Gain	67.0%	75.9%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	78.8%	87.7%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	79.3%	84.3%
Dislocated Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$6,868	$9,250
Dislocated Worker Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	70.0%	74.6%
Dislocated Worker Measurable Skill Gain	66.8%	62.2%
Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	86.8%	87.3%
Youth Employment Rate 4th Quarter Exit	85.7%	90.6%
Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$3,390	$6,146
Youth Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	71.6%	63.2%
Youth Measurable Skill Gain	74.7%	18.0%



Twin Districts Local Workforce Development Area

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Overview

The Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD) serves as the fiscal and administrative agent for the Twin Districts Workforce Development Area (TDWDA). Covering 24 diverse counties in Southeast Mississippi, SMPDD/TDWDA delivers strategic workforce training and services designed to expand the pipeline of skilled workers to meet employer demand—both today and in the future.

Success is driven by strong partnerships with community colleges, state agencies, economic developers, local businesses, and community-based organizations. These collaborations support the job-focused strategies outlined in the WIOA Combined State Plan and ensure a coordinated approach to reemployment services.

WIN Job Center Locations

Carthage
601-267-9282
202 C.O. Brooks St.
Carthage, MS 39051-4262

Choctaw, MS
601-663-7722
266 Industrial Rd.
Choctaw, MS 39350

Columbia
601-736-2628
1111 US Hwy. 98, Suite A
Columbia, MS 39429-3701

Forest
601-469-2851
536 Deer Field Dr.
Forest, MS 39074-6005

Gulfport
228-897-6900
10162 Southpark Dr.
Gulfport, MS 39503-6254

Hancock County
228-466-5425
856 Hwy. 90 Suite D
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520-2737

Hattiesburg
601-584-1202
1911 Arcadia St.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401-6311

Laurel
601-399-4000
2139 Hwy. 15 N, Suite D
Laurel, MS 39440-1830

Meridian
601-553-9511
2000 Highway 19 N
Meridian, MS 39307-4906

Pascagoula
228-762-4713
1604 Denny Ave.
Pascagoula, MS 39567-3301

Philadelphia
601-656-1764
1016 Saxon Airport Rd.
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Picayune
601-798-3472
2005 Wildwood Rd.
Picayune, MS 39466

NOTE: WIN Job Center location information is subject to change. For the most current information, visit us online at mdes.ms.gov

LWDA **Interesting Fact**

Crusin' the Coast began in 1996 as a festival to celebrate antique, classic and hot rod vehicles, nostalgic music and related events.

That first year, 374 cars registered and an estimated 2,000 spectators enjoyed the show. In 2024, the event drew nearly 10,000 registered vehicles from 45 states, Canada and Sweden. Spectators and participants lined the Mississippi Gulf Coast to take part in what has grown to be recognized as "America's Largest Block Party." Each of the 12 host cities feature entertainment, car shows, parades, and family-friendly activities, creating a significant cultural and economic impact on the region.

SMPDD
Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District
BUILDING A STRONGER MISSISSIPPI

Although building partnerships across organizations with different missions and resources can be challenging, TDWDA has consistently leveraged relationships to align efforts and maximize outcomes. Limited funding is strategically invested in four priority sectors identified in the TDWDA Sector Strategy: Advanced Manufacturing, Energy/Chemical, Healthcare, and Information Technology. By pooling resources and focusing on these high-demand areas, TDWDA creates meaningful opportunities for students, jobseekers, and employers.

The strength of TDWDA lies in the active involvement of the Workforce Board, the One-Stop Committee, the Industry Advisory Council, the Youth Committee, the Local Elected Officials Board, and workforce partners such as the East Central Planning and Development District. Together, these entities guide investment in occupational skills training, work-based learning, internships, apprenticeships, customized training, and layoff-aversion strategies. In Program Year 2024, nearly $11 million in WIOA funding was awarded to nine providers delivering Youth, Adult, and Dislocated Worker services across the region.

After five years as a coffee shop manager, *Karli Pilkington* wanted a career change. With help from Pascagoula's WIN Job Center, she was certified for OJT participation with Singing River Electric Cooperative. She transitioned into a Fiber Support Representative role starting at $20.66 per hour, and within a year, advanced to $22.41 per hour. Today, she enjoys a career with stability, growth potential, and strong benefits.

As part of the American Job Center Network, 12 WIN Job Centers serve as the backbone of the workforce system. Their mission is twofold: helping employers recruit and train skilled workers, and assisting jobseekers in developing the skills needed for long-term, family-sustaining careers. Through career counseling, job placement, work-based training, and education, the Centers support both businesses and individuals, advancing the Mississippi Works Smart Start Career Pathway model and contributing to a Work-Ready Mississippi.

WIN Job Center Network — TDWDA operates 12 WIN Job Centers across the region, strategically located to serve both rural and urban communities. These centers are customer-focused hubs where employers and jobseekers connect to training, job placement, and supportive services. The Comprehensive Center in Gulfport serves as the flagship location for Twin Districts. It houses all core partners—MDES, MDHS, MDRS, and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College—ensuring fully integrated services. Additional partners such as Job Corps, Career STEP, Veterans Services, Wagner-Peyser Labor Exchange, and the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provide on-site support and referrals, making the center a true one-stop location.

Across the network, WIN Job Centers deliver services that are accessible, inclusive, and tailored to local needs. Employers benefit from recruitment assistance, customized training options, and workforce development programs, while jobseekers gain access to career counseling, workshops, skills assessments, and training opportunities that support long-term career pathways. Importantly, centers emphasize both physical and programmatic accessibility to ensure services are available to all individuals, regardless of background or ability.

Board Development and Training

Each year, Twin Districts conducts Board Member training during its two-day Annual Meeting. Sessions include fiscal updates, partner highlights, and interactive workshops. In PY24, the meeting featured a Re-Entry Simulation facilitated by the Mississippi Department of Corrections.

The simulation is an immersive exercise designed to help participants understand the barriers faced by individuals returning from incarceration. Each participant assumes the role of a recently released citizen with an assigned identity sheet and a wallet containing limited resources. They are tasked with completing essential weekly activities over a simulated month, divided into four 15-minute segments. These activities include securing housing, paying rent, purchasing food, obtaining identification, seeking employment, managing child support obligations, and complying with parole requirements.

Participants quickly discovered how limited resources, restricted mobility, and bureaucratic processes create overwhelming challenges. Failure to complete required tasks, such as passing a drug test or meeting with a parole officer, often resulted in being sent "back to jail." The exercise underscored the complexity of navigating re-entry and how easily small setbacks can spiral into recidivism.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. Many noted it was the most eye-opening and impactful training they had ever experienced. Several Board Members expressed that the simulation gave them a new level of empathy and a stronger commitment to supporting re-entry services within the workforce system.

Career Coach Partnership with Accelerate MS

In partnership with Accelerate MS, SMPDD placed Career Coaches in 47 high schools across the 24-county region, with additional expansion planned. The goal of the Career Coach program is to ensure every student leaves high school with a clear education or career plan. Coaches connect students with high-demand career opportunities, resources, and hands-on experiences such as internships, guest speaker sessions, and field trips to higher education institutions.

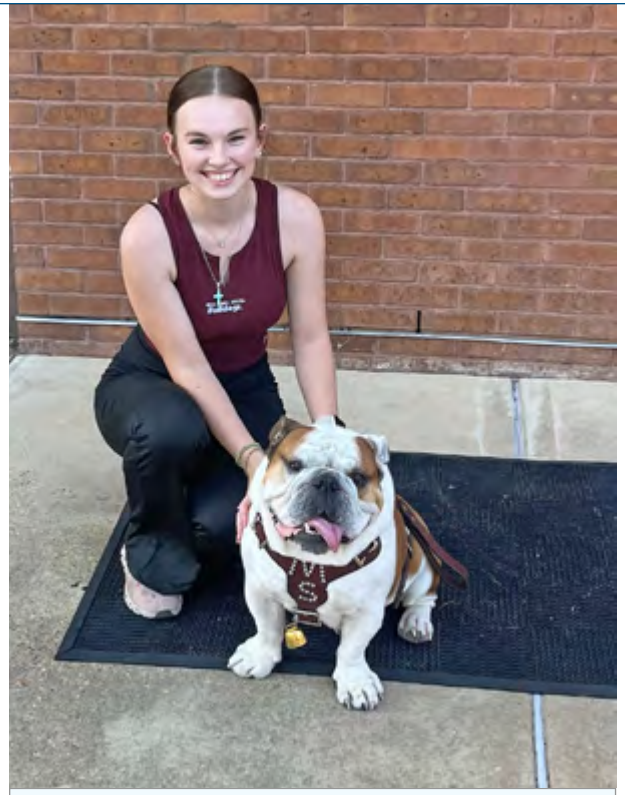
Career Coach Engagement, 2024–2025:

- One-on-One Interactions: 8,996
- Group Sessions: 99,886
- Guest Speaker Engagements: 42,234
- College & Career Visits: 13,304
- Internships/Job Shadows: 743

High School Career Coach Paid Internship Program Highlights:

- Guided Support: Career Coaches work one-on-one with students to align interests with high-quality internship placements, building technical, professional, and employability skills.
- Real Impact: 182 high school participants successfully completed paid/unpaid internships, gaining career insight and stronger resumes; several secured part-time employment offers as a result.
- Powerful Partnerships: 146 business partners across sectors—law, healthcare, education, marketing, engineering, graphic design, and IT—plus placements in manufacturing and heavy-industrial machinery, providing authentic, hands-on experiences.

ACCELERATE MS



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Anna-Claire Hennington

completed a 120-hour internship at Newton County Animal Clinic, confirming her interest in animal science.

She now works at the clinic during school breaks while pursuing a degree at Mississippi State University. Her experience gave her confidence, technical training, and a stronger resume as she pursues her long-term goal of working in wildlife and conservation.

Innovation and Economic Development

In 2015, SMPDD merged its Economic and Workforce Development divisions to streamline operations and strengthen employer engagement.

The division partners with Accelerate MS, MDA, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, and local economic development agencies to coordinate workforce solutions. The coordinating efforts of this division ensure businesses have seamless access to recruitment, training, and workforce services, while individuals gain pathways to meaningful employment.

By aligning resources and strategies across partners, the division has had a measurable impact in strengthening the regional economy and positioning the TDWDA as a hub for collaborative workforce innovation.

PRCC Aviation Academy: A $5.5 million EDA-funded project launched a state-of-the-art training center in Hancock County to prepare students for aerospace careers. Students receive hands-on instruction in aircraft maintenance, avionics, and drone technology. SMPDD secured and administered the EDA grant supporting this facility.

Perry County Transload Facility: A $25 million investment by Mar-Jac Poultry created 21 new jobs and expanded regional infrastructure. The project was guided by SMPDD's economic development project manager, who coordinated local, state, and private sector resources to bring the project to fruition.

Sipcam Agro Expansion: A facility expansion in Wayne County added 26 jobs and preserved 88 existing positions. Workers received customized training through Jones College, ensuring the company could expand operations with a skilled local workforce.

Through a partnership with SMPDD and TDWDA, *Bollinger Shipyards* launched a Shipfitter Bootcamp to train new generations of skilled shipbuilders.

Austin Root: Austin had been running his own landscaping business while raising seven children. Despite his strong work ethic, he struggled to make ends meet. Enrolling in the Bootcamp as a pipe welding trainee gave him new skills and a stable career path. Today, Austin is employed at Bollinger Shipyards, earning a sustainable wage with benefits. He credits the program with not only providing financial stability but also giving him pride and purpose in his work.

Isaiah Williams: Isaiah had been working at Dollar General for $10 per hour with limited prospects. He entered the Bootcamp with no prior experience in pipefitting but quickly excelled.

Despite surviving a serious car accident during training, Isaiah returned determined to complete the program.

Now a full-time employee at Bollinger, he has found direction and a rewarding career.

Individual Training Accounts & Supportive Services

Homeschooled and passionate about working with her hands, *Kaydence* completed an Industrial Maintenance Program at Meridian Community College in May 2025. With no prior work experience, she secured an internship at Atlas Roofing through the WIOA program. After only seven weeks, her strong performance led to a full-time job offer with higher pay and benefits. Today, she is thriving in her role and plans to advance further in industrial maintenance.

Job Fairs

TDWDA partners with the MDES Governor's Job Fair Network to host regional and local job fairs, connecting employers with qualified jobseekers. These events are also integrated into the area's Rapid Response and Layoff Aversion strategies, ensuring that dislocated workers are quickly connected with new opportunities. Job fairs are conducted using proven best practices, including targeted outreach to invite qualified job candidates and employers with active openings, which maximizes the effectiveness of each event.

Between July 2024 and June 2025, eight job fairs served **1,645 applicants**, resulting in **404 same-day job offers** and **1,066 projected hires**.

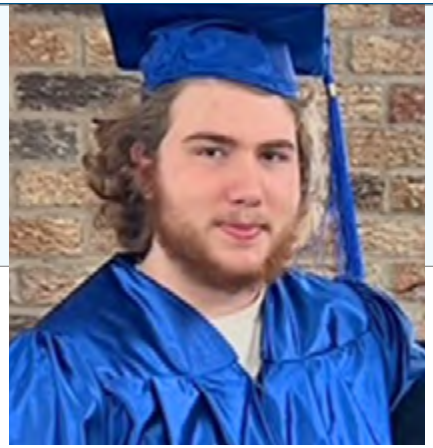
GOVERNOR'S JOBFAIR NETWORK OF MISSISSIPPI

Career STEP Program

The Career Skills Training Education Pathways (STEP) program funds short-term training (under one year) for in-demand occupations. Supported by MDHS TANF funding, Career STEP has provided training for over 350 participants this program year. The program covers tuition, books, fees, and supportive services, helping remove barriers that prevent participants from completing training and securing employment.

Career STEP Success Stories:

- Short-Term Healthcare Training: Several participants enrolled in Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and Phlebotomy programs through Career STEP. With



***Leelyn Smith*, a high school dropout from Morton, faced a difficult childhood in foster care but persevered.** With support from the Youth Workforce Training Program, he earned his HSE diploma and participated in a work experience at Roosevelt State Park, where his supervisor praised his work ethic. Leelyn now plans to train as a heavy equipment operator, pursuing a stable career path and independence.

program support, they completed training in under six months and transitioned into positions at local hospitals and clinics with wages starting at $14–$16 per hour.

- Technical Trades Opportunities: Participants leveraged STEP funding to pursue welding, HVAC, and electrical certification courses at community colleges. Graduates entered the workforce with industry-recognized credentials, filling critical shortages in skilled trades across the TDWDA region.
- Youth and Young Adults: Career STEP also provided pathways for young adults not pursuing traditional four-year degrees. Participants gained short-term credentials in fields like IT support, early childhood education, and commercial driving, allowing them to secure entry-level jobs with advancement potential.

These highlights reflect the broad impact of Career STEP: connecting individuals of all ages with short-term, affordable training opportunities that lead to family-sustaining careers.

Youth Programs

The TDWDA Youth Committee oversees training opportunities for in-school youth (ISY) and out-of-school youth (OSY), ensuring they gain skills for success in high-growth industries. In PY24, 349 youth were served (284 OSY, 65 ISY). Programs include financial literacy, work readiness, HSE preparation, NCRC testing, and paid work experiences.

SMPDD also directly operates four Youth Program sites located in Laurel, Forest, Waveland, and Columbia. These sites provide individualized support to youth, including career guidance, tutoring, mentoring, and work-based learning opportunities. Each location builds strong local partnerships with schools, employers, and community organizations, ensuring that youth services are accessible and aligned with local workforce needs.

In addition, TDWDA partners closely with high school Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. These collaborations help connect in-school youth to sector-based pathways in areas such as Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Information Technology, Energy, and Logistics. By aligning CTE instruction with community college programs and employer needs, these partnerships ensure that students graduate with both academic preparation and relevant work-based experience, making them more competitive in the job market.

To maximize youth services, TDWDA also utilizes the 50/50 waiver, which allows flexibility in serving both in-school youth (ISY) and out-of-school youth (OSY). In PY24, Twin Districts served 284 OSY and 65 ISY. Partnerships with CTE programs, Career Coaches, and other providers have expanded ISY enrollment while continuing strong OSY support. This balanced approach ensures youth across the region gain access to work readiness training, supportive services, and paid work-based learning opportunities that align with sector strategies and employer needs.

Joseph (58): **After nearly three decades in trailer maintenance, Joseph lost his job when his company closed.** Discouraged and uncertain due to his age, he sought help at the Hattiesburg WIN Job Center. With WIOA support, he received individualized career services, a resume refresh, and soft skills training. He soon secured employment with Endom Trailer Parts, proving that his years of experience were valued. "I should not have doubted myself. Age is just a number," Joseph reflected.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides low-income individuals over 55 with subsidized wages while they update their skills. In partnership with over 60 host agencies, participants gain on-the-job training and mentorship to transition to permanent employment.

Re-Entry Initiatives

SMPDD leads three complementary re-entry programs designed to support justice-involved individuals and provide them with pathways back into the workforce. These initiatives are grounded in the belief that every individual deserves a fair opportunity to rebuild their life and contribute to their community.

Accelerated Re-Entry Program (ARP) – Hancock County Jail – Funded by the RESTORE Act, ARP provides intensive pre-release and post-release services for incarcerated individuals preparing to reenter society. Participants receive training in marketable job skills, connections to local employers, and support to overcome common barriers such as lack of transportation, identification, or child care. In April, twelve women graduated from an ARP cohort with staggered release dates. SMPDD staff continue to provide wraparound services including job placement, counseling, and follow-up support. Training is also extended to individuals residing at Magdalene House, a transitional facility. A recent addition to ARP is Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), a nationally recognized, evidence-based practice proven to reduce recidivism. SMPDD's re-entry specialist is now certified to facilitate MRT sessions for participants.

Pathway Home to South Mississippi – This regional initiative, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, extends re-entry services across all 24 counties of the

PATHWAY HOME
SMPDD
Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District
Building a Stronger Mississippi

TDWDA. Pathway Home provides intensive pre- and post-release support, including comprehensive assessments, life skills training, occupational skills development, and the creation of individualized development plans (IDPs). Resource navigators and instructors work directly inside correctional facilities, offering hands-on guidance to participants. The program aims to serve 300 individuals and follow them for 12 months after release, ensuring consistent support as they secure employment and stability.

PROWD Grant Program – Hattiesburg Residential Re-entry Center (RRC) – Operated by Dismas, the Hattiesburg RRC houses around 50 federal inmates nearing release. SMPDD, through the PROWD grant, delivers targeted re-entry services including assessments, MRT group sessions, resume writing, job placement, and wraparound support such as assistance with tools, work clothing, and transportation. This program ensures participants are employment-ready before release and continue to receive support afterward.

Although each program differs in scope and funding, they share a unified mission: to restore dignity, reduce recidivism, and strengthen communities by connecting individuals with sustainable employment and supportive services. SMPDD's compassionate and collaborative approach reframes re-entry from a period of uncertainty into a pathway toward stability, purpose, and promise.

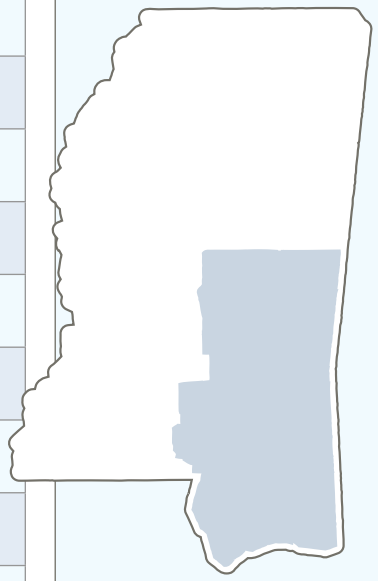
Conclusion

The Twin Districts Workforce Development Area remains committed to advancing workforce opportunities, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring that every Mississippian has access to meaningful employment. Through collaboration, innovation, and targeted investment, SMPDD and its partners continue to drive economic growth and create lasting impact across Southeast Mississippi.

***Mr. James W.*, a 60-year-old participant with lifelong disabilities, overcame personal and physical challenges to find employment through SCSEP.** After several pre-assignment interviews, he was placed at a retirement center where his kindness and patience quickly made him a valued team member. Within six months, he was hired permanently as a dishwasher earning $12.25 per hour. He describes the residents and staff as a second family and credits SCSEP with helping him find joy, purpose, and acceptance.

WIOA Title I — Performance Information: Twin Districts Local Workforce Development Area

Twin Districts LWDA Reported Information	Negotiated Performance Level	Actual Performance Level
Adult Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	88.4%	87.6%
Adult Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	86.4%	89.0%
Adult Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$7,699	$8,698
Adult Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	67.1%	81.5%
Adult Measurable Skill Gain	67.0%	88.1%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	78.8%	81.3%
Dislocated Worker Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	77.6%	80.7%
Dislocated Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$6,868	$7,364
Dislocated Worker Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	70.0%	87.2%
Dislocated Worker Measurable Skill Gain	66.8%	91.8%
Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	84.0%	77.9%
Youth Employment Rate 4th Quarter Exit	80.1%	79.3%
Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	$2,958	$3,379
Youth Credential Attainment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit	71.6%	69.2%
Youth Measurable Skill Gain	68.0%	64.0%



APPENDIX C

On-the-Job Training Accounts and Individual Training Accounts

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING INCLUDING MDES & OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

The following tables identify the breakdown of On-the-Job Training (OJT) spending by Fund Source Category and Local Workforce Area. These tables help demonstrate the diversity of the areas served with the OJT funding.

OJT Fund Source Type	Number of Trainees Trained	Total Amount Obligated
WIOA Adult	359	$1,427,336.67
WIOA Dislocated Worker	65	$364,534.20
Non-WIOA Funds	147	$492,392.70
Overall Total	**571**	**$2,284,263.57**

LWDA	Number of Trainees Trained	Total Amount Obligated
Delta	217	$747,494.30
MS Partnership	225	$627,801.15
South Central	44	$141,340.20
Twin Districts	85	$767,627.92
Total	**571**	**$2,284,263.57**

OJT Fund Source Type	Number of Trainees Trained	Total Amount Obligated
Adult	359	$1,427,336.67
AMS ACI	12	$31,200.00
AMS Baxter	3	$13,760.00
AMS GE Aerospace	9	$35,568.00
AMS Inca Presswood-Pallets	9	$36,947.90
AMS Ingalls Shipbuilding	7	$64,647.00
AMS Lockers	11	$54,798.60
AMS Robinson Electric	1	$2,560.00
AMS Robinson Electric - Upgrade	2	$7,040.00
AMS SDPDD Multi-Company Grant	27	$67,334.40
AMS Viking Range/Lynx Grills	39	$89,887.20
Dislocated Worker	65	$364,534.20
Governors Reserve Grant	18	$61,932.80
MDA Homestead Furniture	9	$26,716.80
Overall Total	**571**	**$2,284,263.57**

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS

Individual Training Accounts Summary: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
160 Driving Academy	Truck Driving	2	$6,145.00	$6,145.00	$3,072.50
Access Training Incorporated	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
Alcorn State University School of Nursing	Health Related Occupations	7	$33,500.00	$33,500.00	$4,785.71
Coahoma Community College	Health Related Occupations	10	$26,681.00	$26,681.00	$2,668.10
Copiah-Lincoln Community College	Academic Classes	9	$5,400.00	$114,310.00	$1,465.51
	Automotive Occupations	1	$1,000.00		
	Building & Construction Trades	33	$42,650.00		
	Electrical Occupations	3	$10,650.00		
	Health Related Occupations	15	$14,800.00		
	Truck Driving	15	$35,350.00		
	Welding Occupations	2	$4,460.00		
CRW Truck Driving Training School	Truck Driving	27	$78,400.00	$78,400.00	$2,903.70
Delta State University	Academic Classes	10	$14,484.50	$77,630.23	$1,893.42
	Computer Occupations	1	$1,040.00		
	Health Related Occupations	30	$62,105.73		
Delta Technical College	Truck Driving	2	$4,526.00	$4,526.00	$2,263.00
East Central Community College	Electrical Occupations	4	$6,000.00	$97,990.29	$1,749.83
	Health Related Occupations	34	$37,990.29		
	Truck Driving	18	$54,000.00		

Individual Training Accounts Summary: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
East Mississippi Community College	Academic Classes	1	$1,715.00	$103,125.69	$1,663.32
	Automotive Occupations	5	$15,285.00		
	Building & Construction Trades	4	$3,700.00		
	Computer Occupations	7	$16,754.69		
	Electrical Occupations	2	$2,705.00		
	Health Related Occupations	15	$29,646.00		
	Production Machine Occupations	3	$4,400.00		
	Truck Driving	3	$7,500.00		
	Welding Occupations	22	$21,420.00		
Grove Healthcare College	Health Related Occupations	3	$11,210.00	$11,210.00	$3,736.67
Gulf Coast Healthcare Career Training Center	Health Related Occupations	1	$850.00	$850.00	$850.00
Hinds Community College	Automotive Occupations	7	$12,890.40	$155,902.78	$1,834.15
	Building & Construction Trades	3	$7,313.00		
	Electrical Occupations	41	$54,431.25		
	Forestry/Park Management	2	$270.00		
	Health Related Occupations	14	$34,338.46		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$3,075.00		
	Miscellaneous Occupations	8	$23,557.49		
	Production Machine Occupations	7	$14,242.18		
	Welding Occupations	2	$5,785.00		

Individual Training Accounts Summary: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Holmes Community College	Electrical Occupations	7	$12,650.00	$189,000.87	$2,392.42
	Health Related Occupations	69	$171,950.87		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$1,500.00		
	Truck Driving	2	$2,900.00		
Itawamba Community College	Health Related Occupations	27	$47,428.98	$58,078.98	$1,528.39
	Miscellaneous Occupations	1	$650.00		
	Truck Driving	10	$10,000.00		
Jones College	Electrical Occupations	5	$13,380.00	$188,726.03	$2,388.94
	Health Related Occupations	44	$90,881.03		
	Maintenance Occupations	3	$13,475.00		
	Truck Driving	24	$67,840.00		
	Welding Occupations	3	$3,150.00		
Meridian Community College	Computer Occupations	1	$2,968.00	$193,000.49	$3,385.97
	Electrical Occupations	3	$8,547.40		
	Health Related Occupations	48	$164,873.89		
	Truck Driving	5	$16,611.20		

Individual Training Accounts Summary: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Mississippi Delta Community College	Academic Classes	1	$900.00	$229,749.26	$1,740.52
	Building & Construction Trades	5	$3,100.00		
	Electrical Occupations	19	$11,100.00		
	Health Related Occupations	66	$144,299.26		
	Truck Driving	33	$63,150.00		
	Welding Occupations	8	$7,200.00		
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	Business Occupations	1	$2,924.80	$233,956.80	$2,437.05
	Health Related Occupations	95	$231,032.00		
Mississippi State Fire Academy	Academic Classes	5	$3,000.00	$11,261.00	$402.18
	Fire Occupations	23	$8,261.00		
Mississippi Truck Driving School, LLC	Truck Driving	8	$22,250.00	$22,250.00	$2,781.25
Mississippi University for Women	Health Related Occupations	1	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$3,000.00
Mississippi Valley State University	Academic Classes	1	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00
Northeast Mississippi Community College	Academic Classes	1	$705.00	$117,908.02	$2,183.48
	Health Related Occupations	39	$93,867.02		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$1,800.00		
	Miscellaneous Occupations	3	$1,536.00		
	Truck Driving	10	$20,000.00		

Individual Training Accounts Summary: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Northwest Mississippi Community College	Automotive Occupations	3	$4,456.00	$164,597.44	$2,351.39
	Electrical Occupations	1	$1,800.00		
	Health Related Occupations	62	$149,456.44		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$3,585.00		
	Truck Driving	1	$2,000.00		
	Welding Occupations	2	$3,300.00		
Pearl River Community College	Academic Classes	6	$6,000.00	$191,848.97	$2,230.80
	Business Occupations	1	$1,078.00		
	Health Related Occupations	52	$117,270.97		
	Truck Driving	27	$67,500.00		
R&J Elite CDL Training	Truck Driving	1	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
Southwest Mississippi Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,882.24	$2,882.24	$2,882.24
SuperiorCare Medical Academy	Computer Occupations	2	$2,490.00	$23,609.00	$1,967.42
	Health Related Occupations	10	$21,119.00		
Truck Driver Institute, Inc.	Truck Driving	27	$90,655.00	$90,655.00	$3,357.59
University of Mississippi	Academic Classes	2	$3,400.00	$3,400.00	$1,700.00
University of Mississippi Medical Center-Student Affairs	Health Related Occupations	6	$19,136.00	$19,136.00	$3,189.33
University of Southern Mississippi	Service Occupations	1	$4,750.00	$4,750.00	$4,750.00
	Total	**1154**	**$2,464,081.09**	**$2,464,081.09**	**$2,135.25**

INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS BY LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA

Delta Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
160 Driving Academy	Truck Driving	1	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
Alcorn State University School of Nursing	Health Related Occupations	3	$6,000.00	$6,000.00	$2,000.00
Coahoma Community College	Health Related Occupations	9	$25,181.00	$25,181.00	$2,797.89
CRW Truck Driving Training School	Truck Driving	6	$12,000.00	$12,000.00	$2,000.00
Delta State University	Academic Classes	10	$14,484.50	$75,372.11	$1,932.62
	Computer Occupations	1	$1,040.00		
	Health Related Occupations	28	$59,847.61		
Hinds Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$1,175.00	$1,175.00	$1,175.00
Holmes Community College	Health Related Occupations	21	$53,131.70	$56,081.70	$2,438.33
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$1,500.00		
	Truck Driving	1	$1,450.00		
Itawamba Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$3,000.00
Meridian Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,302.60	$2,302.60	$2,302.60
Mississippi Delta Community College	Academic Classes	1	$900.00	$229,749.26	$1,740.52
	Building & Construction Trades	5	$3,100.00		
	Electrical Occupations	19	$11,100.00		
	Health Related Occupations	66	$144,299.26		
	Truck Driving	33	$63,150.00		
	Welding Occupations	8	$7,200.00		
Mississippi University for Women	Health Related Occupations	1	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$3,000.00
Mississippi Valley State University	Academic Classes	1	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00
Northwest Mississippi Community College	Automotive Occupations	3	$4,456.00	$37,206.00	$2,325.38
	Health Related Occupations	11	$29,250.00		
	Truck Driving	1	$2,000.00		
	Welding Occupations	1	$1,500.00		
R&J Elite CDL Training	Truck Driving	1	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
Truck Driver Institute, Inc.	Truck Driving	2	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$2,000.00
	Total	**237**	**$460,567.67**	**$460,567.67**	**$1,943.32**

MS Partnership Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Coahoma Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00
CRW Truck Driving Training School	Truck Driving	13	$39,600.00	$39,600.00	$3,046.15
Delta State University	Health Related Occupations	2	$2,258.12	$2,258.12	$1,129.06
Delta Technical College	Truck Driving	1	$2,263.00	$2,263.00	$2,263.00
East Central Community College	Health Related Occupations	25	$21,888.29	$24,888.29	$957.24
	Truck Driving	1	$3,000.00		
East Mississippi Community College	Academic Classes	1	$1,715.00	$100,415.69	$1,646.16
	Automotive Occupations	5	$15,285.00		
	Building & Construction Trades	4	$3,700.00		
	Computer Occupations	7	$16,754.69		
	Electrical Occupations	2	$2,705.00		
	Health Related Occupations	14	$26,936.00		
	Production Machine Occupations	3	$4,400.00		
	Truck Driving	3	$7,500.00		
	Welding Occupations	22	$21,420.00		
Hinds Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$1,800.00	$1,800.00	$1,800.00
Holmes Community College	Electrical Occupations	6	$10,800.00	$117,470.61	$2,303.35
	Health Related Occupations	44	$105,220.61		
	Truck Driving	1	$1,450.00		
Itawamba Community College	Health Related Occupations	26	$44,428.98	$55,078.98	$1,488.62
	Miscellaneous Occupations	1	$650.00		
	Truck Driving	10	$10,000.00		

MS Partnership Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Meridian Community College	Health Related Occupations	11	$27,200.85	$27,200.85	$2,472.80
Mississippi State Fire Academy	Academic Classes	4	$2,400.00	$8,661.00	$376.57
	Fire Occupations	19	$6,261.00		
Mississippi Truck Driving School, LLC	Truck Driving	8	$22,250.00	$22,250.00	$2,781.25
Northeast Mississippi Community College	Academic Classes	1	$705.00	$117,908.02	$2,183.48
	Health Related Occupations	39	$93,867.02		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$1,800.00		
	Miscellaneous Occupations	3	$1,536.00		
	Truck Driving	10	$20,000.00		
Northwest Mississippi Community College	Electrical Occupations	1	$1,800.00	$127,391.44	$2,359.10
	Health Related Occupations	51	$120,206.44		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$3,585.00		
	Welding Occupations	1	$1,800.00		
SuperiorCare Medical Academy	Computer Occupations	2	$2,490.00	$23,609.00	$1,967.42
	Health Related Occupations	10	$21,119.00		
Truck Driver Institute, Inc.	Truck Driving	24	$82,455.00	$82,455.00	$3,435.63
University of Mississippi	Academic Classes	2	$3,400.00	$3,400.00	$1,700.00
University of Mississippi Medical Center-Student Affairs	Health Related Occupations	5	$14,000.00	$14,000.00	$2,800.00
	Total	**386**	**$772,150.00**	**$772,150.00**	**$2,000.39**

South Central Mississippi Works Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Access Training Incorporated	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,500.00	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
Alcorn State University School of Nursing	Health Related Occupations	4	$27,500.00	$27,500.00	$6,875.00
Copiah-Lincoln Community College	Academic Classes	9	$5,400.00	$111,510.00	$1,448.18
	Automotive Occupations	1	$1,000.00		
	Building & Construction Trades	33	$42,650.00		
	Electrical Occupations	3	$10,650.00		
	Health Related Occupations	14	$12,000.00		
	Truck Driving	15	$35,350.00		
	Welding Occupations	2	$4,460.00		
Hinds Community College	Automotive Occupations	7	$12,890.40	$152,927.78	$1,842.50
	Building & Construction Trades	3	$7,313.00		
	Electrical Occupations	41	$54,431.25		
	Forestry/Park Management	2	$270.00		
	Health Related Occupations	12	$31,363.46		
	Maintenance Occupations	1	$3,075.00		
	Miscellaneous Occupations	8	$23,557.49		
	Production Machine Occupations	7	$14,242.18		
	Welding Occupations	2	$5,785.00		

South Central Mississippi Works Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major Description	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Holmes Community College	Electrical Occupations	1	$1,850.00	$2,040.17	$1,020.09
	Health Related Occupations	1	$190.17		
Meridian Community College	Health Related Occupations	6	$20,517.24	$20,517.24	$3,419.54
Mississippi State Fire Academy	Academic Classes	1	$600.00	$600.00	$600.00
Pearl River Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$6,570.00	$6,570.00	$6,570.00
Southwest Mississippi Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,882.24	$2,882.24	$2,882.24
University of Mississippi Medical Center-Student Affairs	Health Related Occupations	1	$5,136.00	$5,136.00	$5,136.00
	Total	**177**	**$332,183.43**	**$332,183.43**	**$1,876.74**

Twin Districts Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
160 Driving Academy	Truck Driving	1	$4,145.00	$4,145.00	$4,145.00
Copiah-Lincoln Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,800.00	$2,800.00	$2,800.00
CRW Truck Driving Training School	Truck Driving	8	$26,800.00	$26,800.00	$3,350.00
Delta Technical College	Truck Driving	1	$2,263.00	$2,263.00	$2,263.00
East Central Community College	Electrical Occupations	4	$6,000.00	$73,102.00	$2,436.73
	Health Related Occupations	9	$16,102.00		
	Truck Driving	17	$51,000.00		
East Mississippi Community College	Health Related Occupations	1	$2,710.00	$2,710.00	$2,710.00
Grove Healthcare College	Health Related Occupations	3	$11,210.00	$11,210.00	$3,736.67
Gulf Coast Healthcare Career Training Center	Health Related Occupations	1	$850.00	$850.00	$850.00
Holmes Community College	Health Related Occupations	3	$13,408.39	$13,408.39	$4,469.46
Jones College	Electrical Occupations	5	$13,380.00	$188,726.03	$2,388.94
	Health Related Occupations	44	$90,881.03		
	Maintenance Occupations	3	$13,475.00		
	Truck Driving	24	$67,840.00		
	Welding Occupations	3	$3,150.00		

Twin Districts Individual Training Accounts Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Provider Name	Course/Major	Total Participants Trained	Total Budgeted Amount	Total Amount Per Provider	Cost per Participants
Meridian Community College	Computer Occupations	1	$2,968.00	$142,979.80	$3,666.15
	Electrical Occupations	3	$8,547.40		
	Health Related Occupations	30	$114,853.20		
	Truck Driving	5	$16,611.20		
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	Business Occupations	1	$2,924.80	$233,956.80	$2,437.05
	Health Related Occupations	95	$231,032.00		
Mississippi State Fire Academy	Fire Occupations	4	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$500.00
Pearl River Community College	Academic Classes	6	$6,000.00	$185,278.97	$2,179.75
	Business Occupations	1	$1,078.00		
	Health Related Occupations	51	$110,700.97		
	Truck Driving	27	$67,500.00		
Truck Driver Institute, Inc.	Truck Driving	1	$4,200.00	$4,200.00	$4,200.00
University of Southern Mississippi	Service Occupations	1	$4,750.00	$4,750.00	$4,750.00
	Total	**354**	**$899,179.99**	**$899,179.99**	**$2,540.06**

All Local Workforce Development Areas Individual Training Accounts: Report Period: 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2025

Total Number of Participants	Total Amount
1,154	**$2,464,081.09**

Statewide Individual Training Account (ITA) Types and Participants

The following tables identify the breakdown of ITA spending by Fund Source Category, Local Workforce Area, and by Occupational Training Type. These tables help demonstrate the diversity of both the areas served and the multiple training types for which funds were provided.

Fund Source Category	Number of Students Trained	Amount Spent
Adult	716	$1,479,249.56
Career Step	171	$386,956.97
Dislocated Worker	179	$457,319.29
Governors Reserve Grant	60	$87,208.62
Out of School Youth	18	$43,346.65
Rapid Response – Layoff Aversion	10	$10,000.00
Total	**1154**	**$2,464,081.09**

Local Workforce Development Area	Number of Students Trained	Total Amount Spent
Delta	237	$460,567.67
MS Partnership	386	$772,150.00
South Central	177	$332,183.43
Twin Districts	354	$899,179.99
Total	**1154**	**$2,464,081.09**

Occupation Training Types Summary	Total Number of Participants Who Received Training	Total Expenditure Amount
Academic Classes	36	$37,104.50
Automotive Occupations	16	$33,631.40
Building & Construction Trades	45	$56,763.00
Business Occupations	2	$4,002.80
Computer Occupations	11	$23,252.69
Electrical Occupations	85	$121,263.65
Fire Occupations	23	$8,261.00
Forestry/Park Management	2	$270.00
Health Related Occupations	650	$1,510,819.18
Maintenance Occupations	7	$23,435.00
Miscellaneous Occupations	12	$25,743.49
Production Machine Occupations	10	$18,642.18
Service Occupations	1	$4,750.00
Truck Driving	215	$550,827.20
Welding Occupations	39	$45,315.00
Total	**1,154**	**$2,464,081.09**

Individual Training Account Approved Course Listing

ACADEMIC CLASSES

- Alternate Route To Teacher's License
- Bachelor of Science In Biology
- Emergency Medical Tech - Basic

AUTOMOTIVE OCCUPATIONS

- Automotive Service Tech. - Certificate
- Diesel Mechanic - Associate Degree
- Industrial Maintenance - Associate Degree

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES

- Carpenter - Certificate
- Carpentry & Cabinet Making 2 Year
- Construction Equipment (Operator)
- Heating & Air Conditioning - Evening Program
- Pipefitting
- Plumber
- Plumbing & Construction Technology (Associate)

BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS

- Accounting Tech
- Process Operations - 2 Year

COMPUTER OCCUPATIONS

- Bachelor Of Business Administration - Computer Information Systems
- Coding Technology
- Computer Information Systems Tech (LAN)
- Network Security Technology
- System Based Automation Control

ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS

- Electrical - Commercial - Certificate
- Electrical Lineman
- Electrical Tech - Associate
- Fiber Splicing Technician
- Fiber Optic Installer
- Industrial Electronics Engineering Technology

FIRE OCCUPATIONS

- Driver/Operator 1002: Pumper Apparatus
- Fire Fighter 1001-I-II
- Fire Officer
- Fire Service Instructor
- Fire Service Instructor 1041-I-II

FORESTRY/PARK MANAGEMENT

- Forestry

Individual Training Account Approved Course Listing — continued

HEALTH RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Bachelor's In Business - Healthcare Administration
- Cardiovascular Tech
- Certified Nurses Assistant And Phlebotomy
- Dental Assisting Technology - Certificate
- Dental Hygiene
- Early Childhood Education
- Emergency Med Technology / Paramedic
- LPN Hybrid
- Medical Assistant - Associate Degree
- Medical Assistant - Certificate
- Medical Billing And Coding Associate Degree
- Medical Lab
- Medical Office Technology - Health Care Data
- Nursing
- Nursing - Accelerated BSN Entry Level As 2nd Degree
- Nursing - Accelerated Track LPN To RN
- Nursing - Associate Degree (RN)
- Nursing - Bachelor Of Science (BSN)
- Nursing - Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Nursing - Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Nursing - Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) - Evening
- Nursing Assistant/Aide
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy Tech
- Phlebotomy (Clinical)
- Physical Therapist Assist Tech
- Radiography Tech - Associate Degree
- Respiratory Care
- Sonography / Ultrasound Technology - Associate Degree
- Surgical Tech - Associate Degree

MAINTENANCE OCCUPATIONS

- Electromechanical Technician
- Heating & Air Conditioning - Associate
- Heating & Air Conditioning - Certificate

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

- Medical Data Technology - Career Certificate
- MIBEST Basic Essential Skills

PRODUCTION MACHINE OCCUPATIONS

- Avionics - Cabling
- Mechatronics

SERVICE OCCUPATIONS

- Basic Law Enforcement Training

TRUCK DRIVING

- CDL Class B With Passenger
- CDL Training
- Truck Driver
- Truck Driver - Accelerated
- Truck Driver - Evening Program

WELDING OCCUPATIONS

- Welding - Associate Degree
- Welding - Career Certificate
- Welding & Cutting
- Welding 18 Week Course
- Welding Basic

APPENDIX D

Supplemental Information

INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY SERVICE CENTER

Basic Career Services - Basic career services are universally accessible and must be made available to all individuals seeking employment and training services. Generally, these services include services such as eligibility determinations, initial skill assessments, labor exchange services, provision of information on programs and services, and program referrals.

Individualized Career Services - Individualized career services must be provided to participants after WIN Job Center staff determine that such services are required to retain or obtain employment, consistent with any applicable statutory priorities. Generally, these services involve significant staff time and customization to each individual's need. Individualized career services include services such as specialized assessments, developing an individual employment plan, counseling, work experiences (including transitional jobs), etc.

An individual may receive multiple services at service centers.

Wagner-Peyser - Individuals Served By Local Workforce Development Area

Delta	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Batesville NWCC	157	78	187	65	344	79	0	0	0	0
Batesville WIN Job Center	16,051	4,453	163	88	16,214	4,453	595	426	275	273
Bolivar County CCA	0	0	72	36	72	36	0	0	0	0
Clarksdale WIN Job Center	6,271	1,760	346	121	6,617	1,797	560	351	73	71
Cleveland WIN Job Center	4,220	1,122	355	208	4,575	1,159	416	344	183	183
Coahoma Community College	0	0	51	26	51	26	0	0	0	0

Delta	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Greenville WIN Job Center	27,935	8,897	41	26	27,976	8,897	2,195	804	166	154
Greenwood WIN Job Center	5,676	2,575	56	56	5,732	2,581	383	262	140	132
Indianola WIN Job Center	2,918	1,860	108	60	3,026	1,861	680	558	334	331
Lexington WIN Job Center	44	42	5	4	49	45	0	0	0	0
Mid State Opportunity Inc.	0	0	55	28	55	28	0	0	0	0
Sunflower Humphreys County Progress	0	0	173	87	173	87	0	0	0	0
WWISCCA (Delta)	0	0	186	94	186	94	0	0	0	0
Delta Total	**63,272**	**19,676**	**1,798**	**893**	**65,070**	**20,000**	**4,829**	**2,664**	**1,171**	**1,132**

Mississippi Partnership	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Amory WIN Job Center	22,078	9,329	78	24	22,156	9,346	195	108	1	1
Attala WIN Job Center	2,288	1,224	1	1	2,289	1,224	62	39	7	7
Communiversity WIN Job Center	31,651	12,152	14	3	31,665	12,153	485	250	13	12
Corinth WIN Job Center	25,527	11,957	125	32	25,652	11,963	500	236	20	20
East Mississippi Community College	0	0	25	25	25	25	0	0	0	0
Golden Triangle Planning and Development District	0	0	720	143	720	143	0	0	0	0

Mississippi Partnership	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Grenada WIN Job Center	5,367	1,955	181	92	5,548	1,964	217	151	2	2
Itawamba Community College	0	0	93	31	93	31	0	0	0	0
Louisville WIN Job Center	9,948	3,152	2	2	9,950	3,152	1,541	467	73	68
Marshall County Workforce Training Center	7,159	3,207	2	2	7,161	3,209	0	0	0	0
Northwest Mississippi Community College	0	0	37	18	37	18	0	0	0	0
Oxford WIN Job Center	532	506	2	2	534	508	4	4	0	0
Pontotoc WIN Job Center	2,414	960	0	0	2,414	960	1,596	569	91	88
Tupelo WIN Job Center	64,455	20,126	52	11	64,507	20,127	6,355	1,776	35	35
West Point WIN Job Center	9	3	0	0	9	3	0	0	0	0
Golden Triangle Planning and Development District	0	0	720	143	720	143	0	0	0	0
Mississippi Partnership Total	**171,428**	**50,721**	**1,332**	**385**	**172,760**	**50,938**	**10,955**	**3,475**	**242**	**233**

South Central MS Works	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Brookhaven CMPDD	247	111	96	39	343	144	0	0	0	0
Brookhaven WIN Job Center	1,094	530	69	51	1,163	555	420	304	27	27

South Central MS Works	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Canton Call Center	223	180	3	2	226	182	0	0	0	0
Central MS PDD	228	122	13	11	241	133	0	0	0	0
Copiah Lincoln Community College	119	64	69	31	188	65	0	0	0	0
Hinds Community College	505	243	44	36	549	249	0	0	0	0
Jackson CMPDD	364	252	22	20	386	260	0	0	0	0
Jackson WIN Job Center	650	96	3	3	653	97	22	16	2	2
Madison County WIN Job Center	4,641	1,650	5	5	4,646	1,652	918	463	33	33
McComb WIN Job Center	16,589	5,459	187	78	16,776	5,464	2,484	1,034	260	247
Natchez CMPDD	281	116	51	33	332	123	0	0	0	0
Natchez WIN Job Center	7,989	4,334	1	1	7,990	4,334	605	273	52	51
Pearl CMPDD	183	88	10	10	193	88	0	0	0	0
Pearl WIN Job Center	3,282	573	0	0	3,282	573	712	269	5	5
Vicksburg CMPDD	258	129	2	2	260	130	0	0	0	0
Vicksburg WIN Job Center	678	160	154	62	832	174	172	73	10	10
South Central MS Works Total	**37,331**	**13,654**	**729**	**379**	**38,060**	**13,742**	**5,333**	**2,396**	**389**	**373**

Twin Districts	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Carthage WIN Job Center	367	109	0	0	367	109	157	83	2	2
Choctaw WIN Job Center	46	25	0	0	46	25	31	20	5	5
Columbia WIN Job Center	7,949	1,706	535	329	8,484	1,813	3,066	1,061	242	223
East Central Community College	0	0	79	34	79	34	0	0	0	0
East Mississippi Community College	0	0	82	30	82	30	0	0	0	0
Forest WIN Job Center	614	282	18	12	632	283	257	178	6	6
Gulfport WIN Job Center	18,015	4,067	346	243	18,361	4,073	4,522	1,505	277	269
Hancock County WIN Job Center	4,853	3,218	25	23	4,878	3,218	106	70	8	8
Hattiesburg Call Center	0	0	275	242	275	242	0	0	0	0
Hattiesburg WIN Job Center	18,890	3,780	1,566	627	20,456	3,885	5,328	1,427	387	363
Jones County Junior College	0	0	94	34	94	34	0	0	0	0
Laurel WIN Job Center	16,284	6,351	870	400	17,154	6,467	5,337	1,347	318	303
Meridian Community College	0	0	88	30	88	30	0	0	0	0
Meridian WIN Job Center	3,486	1,055	638	109	4,124	1,065	1,472	529	34	34
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	0	0	205	85	205	85	0	0	0	0

Twin Districts	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
Pascagoula WIN Job Center	27,256	18,323	700	223	27,956	18,338	812	447	143	142
Pearl River Community College	0	0	85	29	85	29	0	0	0	0
Philadelphia WIN Job Center	1,140	485	0	0	1,140	485	312	198	10	10
Picayune WIN Job Center	6,274	1,350	744	221	7,018	1,350	426	237	58	56
SMPDD	0	0	258	103	258	103	0	0	0	0
Southern MS PDD	29	23	0	0	29	23	0	0	0	0
Pearl River Community College	0	0	84	28	84	28	0	0	0	0
Twin Districts Total	**105,203**	**38,270**	**6,608**	**2,746**	**111,811**	**39,152**	**21,826**	**6,955**	**1,490**	**1,414**

MDES State Office	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TOTAL		REFERRALS		PLACEMENTS	
Service Center	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Referrals	Participants	Placements	Participants
MDES State Office	1,606	1,564	835	782	2,441	1,633	6	4	0	0
MDES State Office Total	**1,606**	**1,564**	**835**	**782**	**2,441**	**1,633**	**6**	**4**	**0**	**0**

Statewide Total	**378,840**	**120,014**	**11,302**	**5,154**	**390,142**	**121,491**	**42,949**	**15,418**	**3,292**	**3,151**

Title I - Individuals Served By Local Workforce Development Area

Delta		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Batesville WIN Job Center	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1
Batesville NWCC	226	1,008	233	409	216	51	51	1,417	234
Bolivar County CCA	0	0	0	377	37	0	0	377	37
Clarksdale WIN Job Center	116	274	117	455	130	15	15	729	160
Cleveland WIN Job Center	112	361	126	491	97	66	63	852	149
Coahoma Community College	0	0	0	237	30	0	0	237	30
Greenville WIN Job Center	129	429	136	93	51	42	42	522	137
Greenwood WIN Job Center	171	658	173	88	41	29	27	746	183
Indianola WIN Job Center	216	1,214	222	279	184	81	81	1,493	229
Lexington WIN Job Center	4	12	4	9	4	4	4	21	6
Mid State Opportunity Inc.	0	0	0	236	38	0	0	236	38
Mississippi Delta Community College	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
North Panola Career Technical	0	0	0	22	8	0	0	22	8
South Delta PDD	211	211	211	167	167	0	0	378	249
Sunflower Humphreys County Progress	0	0	0	1,070	86	12	12	1,070	86
WWISCCA (Delta)	0	0	0	602	110	29	28	602	110
Delta Total	**1,185**	**4,168**	**1,219**	**4,537**	**1,027**	**329**	**323**	**8,705**	**1,399**

Mississippi Partnership		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Amory WIN Job Center	73	309	74	84	14	10	10	393	75
Attala WIN Job Center	25	100	26	33	19	15	15	133	26
Communiversity WIN Job Center	549	1,117	489	474	302	122	115	1,591	493
Corinth WIN Job Center	294	1,194	290	449	216	176	172	1,643	291
DeSoto County/Southaven WIN Job Center	84	106	85	188	95	19	19	294	95
East Mississippi Community College - (MP)	82	228	64	381	64	0	0	609	64
Golden Triangle Planning and Development District	94	282	94	552	94	0	0	834	94
Grenada WIN Job Center	138	864	140	292	51	42	42	1,156	148
Itawamba Community College	77	246	70	576	80	0	0	822	80
Louisville WIN Job Center	67	461	71	36	26	15	15	497	77
Marshall County Workforce Training Center	172	272	169	159	140	11	11	431	169
Northeast Mississippi Community College MP	78	223	74	1,361	107	1	1	1,584	107
Northwest Mississippi Community College	76	288	72	661	71	0	0	949	72
Oxford WIN Job Center	140	372	141	276	142	88	88	648	143
Pontotoc WIN Job Center	29	70	29	18	17	16	16	88	29
Three Rivers PDD	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	6	2

Mississippi Partnership

		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Tupelo WIN Job Center	231	1,132	244	221	128	88	88	1,353	245
Mississippi Partnership Total	**2,209**	**7,264**	**2,089**	**5,767**	**1,532**	**603**	**590**	**13,031**	**2,154**

South Central MS Works

		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Brookhaven WIN Job Center	24	30	26	3	3	0	0	33	27
Brookhaven CMPDD	114	436	115	150	94	77	77	586	116
Central MS PDD	5	5	5	2	2	2	2	7	7
Copiah Lincoln Community College	0	95	38	81	38	0	0	176	38
Hinds Community College	242	493	242	395	206	156	154	888	242
Jackson CMPDD	154	333	154	219	122	52	51	552	162
Jackson WIN Job Center	15	41	15	20	15	0	0	61	15
Madison County WIN Job Center	57	120	59	1	1	0	0	121	59
McComb WIN Job Center	16	37	17	3	2	0	0	40	17
Natchez WIN Job Center	31	239	37	0	0	0	0	239	37
Natchez CMPDD	56	202	54	104	34	17	17	306	57
Northeast Mississippi Community College - (SC)	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	6	6
Pearl WIN Job Center	4	7	5	1	1	0	0	8	5

South Central MS Works

Service Center	Enrollments	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
		Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Pearl CMPDD	77	156	78	854	194	74	72	1,010	194
Southwest Mississippi Community College	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Vicksburg WIN Job Center	4	7	4	0	0	0	0	7	4
Vicksburg CMPDD	127	254	127	326	148	139	135	580	148
Yazoo County Youth Court YES Program	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	4	4
South Central MS Works Total	**926**	**2,455**	**922**	**2,170**	**817**	**517**	**496**	**4,625**	**1,075**

Twin Districts

Service Center	Enrollments	BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
		Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Carthage WIN Job Center	88	185	91	87	87	0	0	272	91
Choctaw WIN Job Center	50	101	50	51	50	0	0	152	50
Climb CDC	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Columbia WIN Job Center	220	1,203	238	412	186	19	19	1,615	250
East Central Community College	0	44	22	97	28	0	0	141	28
East Mississippi Community College - (TD)	0	60	30	137	30	0	0	197	30
Forest WIN Job Center	157	361	157	111	69	44	40	472	160
Gulfport WIN Job Center	400	3,574	504	640	366	47	47	4,214	518
Hancock County WIN Job Center	33	102	44	24	20	0	0	126	45
Hattiesburg	404	1,316	479	1,211	553	27	27	2,527	565

Twin Districts

		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
Jones County Junior College	0	72	36	254	39	0	0	326	39
Laurel WIN Job Center	284	2,136	327	726	283	46	46	2,862	360
Meridian WIN Job Center	334	1,342	384	577	299	36	35	1,919	408
Meridian Community College	0	60	30	208	34	0	0	268	34
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	0	187	100	499	103	0	0	686	116
Pascagoula WIN Job Center	383	1,557	413	522	311	63	63	2,079	435
Pearl River Community College	0	0	0	10	10	0	0	10	10
Pearl River Community College	0	58	29	156	31	0	0	214	31
Philadelphia WIN Job Center	89	175	89	86	86	0	0	261	89
Picayune WIN Job Center	150	357	161	3,400	324	26	26	3,757	324
SMPDD	339	570	342	670	140	0	0	1,240	364
Twin Districts Total	**2,931**	**13,460**	**3,250**	**9,879**	**2,991**	**308**	**303**	**23,339**	**3,606**

MDES State Office

		BASIC		INDIVIDUALIZED		TRAINING		TOTAL	
Service Center	Enrollments	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants	Services	Participants
State Office Help Desk	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
State Office Help Desk Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**

Statewide Total	**7,251**	**27,347**	**7,471**	**22,354**	**6,352**	**1,758**	**1,713**	**49,701**	**8,211**

2024 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Annual Report

presented by the State Administrative Entity for WIOA in Mississippi

Submitted November 26, 2025, by

MDES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT *of* EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

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