



Workforce Development Department

The proposed resolution authorizes approval of a grant modification for the WIOA Apprenticeship Expansion Grant in the amount of \$35,000, increasing the total grant award from \$275,000 to \$310,000. The modification supports a regional workforce development initiative on behalf of the participating regional workforce boards to strengthen and expand apprenticeship strategies across the region. The regional workforce boards represent the counties in Northeast Economic Development Region 4.

The additional funding will support the planning, coordination, and implementation of a regional convening involving regional workforce board business services teams, employer engagement staff, and representatives from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). The convening is intended to establish coordinated regional strategies to scale Registered Apprenticeship and work-based learning models aligned with the priority industry sectors identified within the approved Regional Workforce Plan.

The convening will focus on establishing coordinated regional apprenticeship and workforce strategies aligned with the priority industry sectors identified in the Regional Workforce Plan, including advanced manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, distribution and logistics, and technology-enabled occupations supporting the future workforce needs of the region.