

**WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL – QUALITY WORKFORCE COMMITTEE
Minutes**

Tuesday, August 2nd, 2022
1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://azcommerce.zoom.us/j/96755135153>

Members Present

Audrey Bohanan- Adelante Healthcare
Karla Moran- SRP
Jackie Elliott- Central AZ Community College

Members Not Present

Thomas Winkel- AZ Coalition for Military Families
Greg Anderson- Summit Healthcare

1. Call to Order - 1:04 p.m.

2. Welcome and Meeting Logistics

Audrey Bohanan welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that she was asked by the Council Chair Mark Gaspers to chair this committee, and wholeheartedly agreed.

3. Approval of Minutes for 4-26-22 Committee Meeting

Motion to approve by Jackie Elliott, seconded by Karla Moran. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Call to the Public - none

5. Guest Speaker

Andy Ridley, OEO Program Manager, updated the committee on progress within the Arizona Career Readiness Credential Program (ACRC). The program has been renewed for an additional year and will undergo an RFP for a new long-term contract. Digital Literacy skill assessment and development courseware has been added to the program. More users have chosen to take the Professional Skills assessment in the past year than previously. Statewide participation by ARIZONA@WORK faltered significantly during COVID and has not regained momentum. Andy recommended the council take steps to strengthen ARIZONA@WORK participation.

6. Introductions and Mission

Audrey introduced herself and the current members of the committee, and mentioned that a vacancy remains for an additional member. She reviewed the mission to build connections between education and industry to ensure training, CTE and educational programs strengthen career pathways for individuals and for employers.

7. Accomplishments

Stacey Faulkner, OEO Workforce Deputy Administrator, summarized the committee's accomplishments, by first reviewing the State Plan Strategies of developing Industry

Sector Partnerships, ensuring that training provided to job seekers and workers has a focus on transferable skills, developing a Business Engagement Plan, and implementing a framework for supporting a statewide model for career pathways.

She went on to review the accomplishment of improving the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and Formula Allocations Policy, which now aligns Arizona with best practices utilized in other states, supports the objectives described in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan, complies with the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (DOL-ETA) requirements, and streamlines and simplifies the processes.

Stacey then reviewed the conclusion of the Journey Map project, which has thoroughly analyzed job seeker engagement, employer engagement, the referral process, and case management within Arizona's workforce system.

8. Lessons Learned and Committee Priorities

Stacey summarized the various lessons learned by the committee and the next steps needed by first reviewing how workforce management across the state manages and shares employer relationships. She emphasized key components, such as the impact on WIOA mandated Performance Outcomes, Work Based Learning, participation in curriculum development, and the coordination on job orders and job placements.

She went on to review Process Improvement, considering a statewide workgroup, staff cross training in the Arizona Job Connection (AJC) system and WIOA, and improving communication.

Stacey then talked about Integrated Service Delivery, specifically mentioning referrals between partner programs and how ARIZONA@WORK is a system.

Audrey Bohanan led a brief roundtable discussion on committee priorities, asking for suggestions or questions.

Jackie Elliott mentioned that there seems to be some lack of understanding, clarity, and consistency, and suggested that improving communication should be a priority.

Michael Smith, of Mohave-La Paz Workforce, brought up his concern about access to data, especially tracking outcomes, plus echoed the concern for improving communication. He would like to have a platform that facilitates the combined needs of workforce development, or at least a way for local systems to be able to 'talk' to the state system.

Audrey thanked all for their participation and pertinent feedback.

9. Adjournment - 1:33 p.m.

*Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to members of the Workforce Arizona Council Quality Workforce Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold an electronic meeting, on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.** via zoom.*

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by calling (602) 364-0430. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

A copy of the material provided to Committee members (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection by contacting workforce.council@oeo.az.gov.

Under A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), the Committee may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on any item on the agenda.

At its discretion, the Committee may consider and act upon any agenda item out of order. Members of the Committee may appear by telephone.