



# Minnesota PYs 2024–2027 WIOA Combined State Plan

## Detailed Summary of Tracked Changes

### I. WIOA State Plan Type and Executive Summary

#### a. WIOA State Plan Type

**Tracked Changes:**

- None

#### Combined Plan Partner Program(s)

**Tracked Changes:**

- None

#### b. Plan Introduction or Executive Summary

**Tracked Changes:**

- Removed prior optional Executive Summary requested in the outdated Training and Employment Guidance Letter

## II. Strategic Elements

### a. Economic, Workforce, and Workforce Development Activities Analysis

**Tracked Changes:**

- Updated the summary to reflect current labor market and economic conditions in the state, most notably that the state is still adding jobs and workers, while the unemployment rate is trending upward but the number of vacancies is trending down.
- Updated all of the tables in the report with the most current data available.

- This includes industry employment data from DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages, Job Vacancy Survey, Occupations in Demand, industry and occupational Employment Projections, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, State Demographic Center population projections, and Census Bureau American Community Survey estimates.
- Updated the content of the report to match the current data.

## **b. State Strategic Vision and Goals**

### **Tracked Changes:**

- None

## **c. State Strategy**

### **Tracked Changes:**

- Updated language to reflect changes from previous legislative sessions and new High-Quality Jobs Framework

# **III. Operational Planning Elements**

## **a. State Strategy Implementation**

### **Tracked Changes:**

- Clarify execution of the One Minnesota Workforce Shortage Goal and Interagency Workforce Alignment Task Force, including:
  - How it functions as a statewide results framework
  - How agencies align operational activity to shared outcomes
- Update descriptions of committee leadership, including:
  - Named chairs
  - Responsible agencies and staff
- Clarify the organizational placement and role of the State Rapid Response Team (SRRT), with emphasis on:
  - Employer engagement
  - Layoff response and workforce transition coordination
- Expand descriptions of participant services, including:
  - Career planning and counseling
  - Training access and approvals

- Job placement and follow-up

Tracked changes removed:

- Duplicative or outdated narrative describing SCSEP alignment, which appears elsewhere in the plan
- Repetitive boilerplate descriptions of service categories already addressed in other sections
- Broad or aspirational language that did not specify implementation mechanisms

## **b. State Operating Systems and Policies**

**Tracked Changes:**

- Minor insertions clarified:
  - Program naming conventions (e.g., full reference to Vocational Rehabilitation Services)
  - Employer engagement role terminology

## **IV. Coordination with State Plan Programs**

**Tracked Changes:**

Tracked changes added language to:

- Confirm continued coordination among program administrators during plan modification cycles
- Clarify references to federal reporting and modification requirements

## **V. Common Assurances**

**Tracked Changes:**

- None

## VI. Program-Specific Requirements for Core Programs & Combined State Plan Partner Programs

### DEED Adult/Dislocated Worker

- Estimated Performance Goals Updated for PY26–PY27.
- Regional designation and appeals confirmed/name change to one WDA was updated.
- Work-based training and apprenticeship integration along with partnership with DLI described.
- Detailed ETPL system modernization plan and reporting requirements updated.
- Removed references to pandemic related barriers.
- Strengthened Monitoring and Reporting for priority of service and co-enrollment requirements.
- Clarified that although TAA is not enrolling participants currently, ongoing Technical Assistance is being provided to one stop operators to ensure they remain familiar with the program and in compliance with any reporting requirements.

### DEED Youth

1. Consolidated language around WIOA Youth referral partners to be broader and all encompassing.
2. Added references to Executive Order on Foster Youth and highlighted the work WIOA Youth service providers are already doing on this front.
3. Refined language and updated information on Guideposts for Success and Integrated Resource Team best practices and how it supports WIOA Youth programming.
4. Added a section on Minnesota's Employment Transition Model Grant (ETM) awarded in April 2024. Information on how the ETM grant will work in tandem with existing WIOA Youth funds and strategies to increase the capacity of the Title I Workforce Development system to better serve youth with disabilities seeking WIOA services.

5. Brief description of efforts to incorporate Artificial Intelligence into programming that aligns with recent Executive Order on Artificial Intelligence and its importance in the future of the workforce.

## DEED CareerForce, Employment Services

The most significant updates were made to the Agricultural Outreach Plan (AOP), starting on page 185 of the current plan posted here: [https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2024-2027-wioa-state-plan-acc\\_tcm1045-658548.pdf](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2024-2027-wioa-state-plan-acc_tcm1045-658548.pdf)

A summary of changes to the AOP:

- Updates were made to agricultural data utilizing the most up to date information available.
- Employer and partner information was updated.
- Information added on how we are collaborating with several states and US DOL to improve the Agricultural Recruitment System (ARS) to ensure agricultural jobs are promoted to US workers and employers do have an avenue to bypass local recruitment through the SWA first.
- Information added on how Minnesota Complaint system has been centralized through our CareerForce Information and Assistance line for better record keeping and response to MSFW Complaints.
- Updates on plans to train state merit state on the Discontinuation of Services to Employers by the Wagner-Peyser Act Employer Services

Changes were made to the business services section starting page 35 (and page 40 duplicate) of the current state plan:

- Formation of the Employer Engagement Team, which serves to connect job seekers engaged in the CareerForce System, including training program participants
- Focus on connecting job seekers with Minnesota employers offering career path employment and family-sustaining wages in these fields: the caring professions, education, manufacturing, technology, and the trades.

Changes were also made to Rapid Response content starting on page 59 (and page 68 duplicate) and on page 140 of the current state plan:

- The State Rapid Response Team moving under the DEED CareerForce Division for better integration with the work of Job Service and other staff within the division
- The sunseting of TAA

Changes were made to reflect changes in online tools offered on CareerForce.MN.gov and online workshops offered by CareerForce staff on page 20, page 34 (and page 38 duplicate) and page 59 (and page 69 duplicate):

- Jobs in Demand content focus and tools have changed in light of changes in labor market since the immediate post pandemic recession period
- Assessment tools have been improved on CareerForce.MN.gov to help job seekers better identify employment that is a good fit for their skills and interests
- CareerForce staff are now offering new workshops, with many more online options, to meet the needs of job seekers, including workshops on leveraging AI in a person’s job search

## JVSG State Plan Midpoint Updates

### Minnesota Veterans Employment Services

#### 1) Service Delivery

- Removed “ triage” and used DOL language which is screening
- Renamed the veterans questionnaire by using DOL language: Veterans Employment Eligibility Screening Form
- Updated (.gov) URL : <https://careerforce.mn.gov/forms/MNVets>
- Per DOL, removed Significant Barriers to Employment (SBE). We are using barriers employment.

OLD	NEW	Reason
Triage	Screening	“Triage” could be triggering to former medics or to those who have been triaged for emergency medical care.
Triage form	Screening tool	“Forms” are a way to collect mandatory information from the public for governmental use.
Significant Barriers to Employment (SBE)	Employment barriers	SBE can sound insulting, alienating, or discouraging to a customer.

#### 2) Populations to be Served by DVOP & Consolidated DVOP/LVER

List eligible populations and criteria for DVOP referral:

- Removed DOL-rescinded old policies (VPL 03-14) and updated it with new VPL 05-24
- The Veterans Intensive Service Coordinator (ISC) position was eliminated in 2024. Per DOL's guidance, since this position is no longer significant and its roles and responsibilities are not aligned with the new guidance (VPL 05-24)
- Updated and listed the eligible population in accordance with DOL guidance [VPL 05-24](#).
  - All populations served by DVOPs must meet eligibility requirements in accordance with VETS guidance. To identify the eligible populations to be served under this grant, please refer to [VPL 05-24](#) Jobs for Veterans State Grants Staff Roles and Responsibilities and Coordination with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Services to Veterans.
- The Native Veterans and Women Veterans Outreach was removed because the Veterans Representative leading these initiative resigned from DEED, and we do not have the funding or capacity to continue this initiative.

### 3) Roles & Responsibilities (DVOP, LVER, Consolidated)

- Defined duties consistent with 38 U.S.C. §4103A/4104 and VETS
- Update Consolidated (DVOP/LVER) acronym (CP) to CODL, which matches DOL's language

### 6) JVSG Performance Targets

Update targets for participants served by JVSG staff:

- Employment Rate – 2nd Quarter After Exit **58%**
- Employment Rate – 4th Quarter After Exit **56%**
- Median Earnings – 2nd Quarter After Exit **\$10,500**

## References

JVSG State Plan Required Components and Guidance

[VPL 01-24 Attachment 1](#)

Jobs for Veterans State Grants Staff Roles and Responsibilities and Coordination

with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Services to Veterans.

## MDE Adult Basic Education

his is a list of all the changes made in the draft Adult Education section to the Minnesota WIOA plan:

1. Page 215: Corrected a typo - 4th line under "Review Process": determinedemonstrated
2. Page 218: Work will continue with the Office of Refugee Resettlement and the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to identify individuals in this category. Change Office of Refugee Resettlement to the Office of New Americans.
3. Page 219: add note starting that: Due to high numbers of applications, starting in 2028, the maximum IELCE annual grant award will be limited to \$100,000 so more communities can be served.
4. Page 220: Update this sentence (halfway down the page): The next grant opportunity will be offered in 2025.
5. Page 221: Removed duplicative language regarding IELCE. I think this is a "correction" added into a narrative section.
6. Page 225: (#2) Change language about "five-year narrative" to "Reauthorization (state narrative, once every six year)" which prioritizes the narrative, removes reference to five years, and does not use six-year narrative
7. Page 226: We removed references to a state grant as part of leadership activities since we have not been using federal money nor matched state funding for the grant.
8. Page 227: in first bullet, change "a STAR cohort or EBRI course" to "an EBRI course" since STAR is not currently operating.
9. Page 227: In the second bullet, change "a CCRS Implementation Cohort" to "a CCRS Foundations Course or other CCRS-focused professional development"
10. Page 227: In the third bullet, change "Distance Learning 101 Cohort" to "Best Practices in Digital Learning Cohort"
11. Page 233: Remove reference to STAR
12. Page 235: Add proposed targets for Federal Program Years 2026 and 2027.

NOTE: Sections referencing DEI or Cultural Competency that we did not change:

1. Page 223: Second paragraph – discusses diversity, equity, and inclusion
2. Page 224: "Cultural competency" is one of the listed online resource libraries
3. Page 233: Equity and cultural competency are referenced throughout the pageDEED VRS

## DEED VRS

### Summary of updates to the VR Portion of the Combined State Plan

VR programs are statutorily required to update descriptions (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (i) of the VR Portion of the Combined State Plan. The following gives a brief summary of the updates:

- Description (a) outlines the current membership of the State Rehabilitation Council and input provided from the council over the past year.
- Description (c) provides the updated goals, priorities and strategies of VRS, submitted here as OKRs.
- Description (d) gives an update on the goals, priorities and strategies from the most recently approved combined state plan.
- Description (e) includes updated supported employment data from the most recently completed Program Year.
- Description (f) has updated annual estimates.
- Description (g) includes justification for VRS continuing on an Order of Selection.
- Description (i) is an updated Comprehensive System of Personnel Development.

If the VR agency determines that an approved state plan description no longer meets the current administration requirement, then the state plan must be updated or amended accordingly.

In addition to the updated descriptions above, VR updated:

- Description (b) to reflect an updated Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA), and
- Description (j) to reflect changes in service provision to youth due to budget constraints.

Other minor language adjustments have been completed throughout the report.

## DEED SSB

### Summary of updates to the SSB Portion of the Combined State Plan

According to guidance from RSA, VR programs are statutorily required to update descriptions (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (i) of the VR Portion of the Combined State Plan. The following gives a brief summary of the updates:

- Description (a) outlines the current membership of the State Rehabilitation Council-Blind (SRC-B) and input provided from the council over the past year.
- Description (c) provides the updated goals, priorities and strategies of SSB
- Description (d) gives an update on the goals, priorities and strategies from the most recently approved combined state plan.
- Description (e) includes updated supported employment data from the most recently completed Program Year.
- Description (f) has updated annual estimates.
- Description (g) includes refusal of Order of Selection.
- Description (i) is an updated Comprehensive System of Personnel Development.

If the agency determines that an approved state plan description no longer meets the current administration requirement, then the state plan must be updated or amended accordingly.

In addition to the updated descriptions above, SSB updated:

- Description (b) to reflect an updated Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) based upon listening sessions with customers.
- Other minor language adjustments have been completed throughout the report.

## Perkins V

The only significant change is to the tables on pages 70-71 which now include State Determined Performance Levels (SDPLs) for grant year 7 (2026-2027). We have not conducted a public comment period yet for these new levels. Once the public comment period is complete, we will include comments received along with responses beginning on page 108.

## DHS TANF

## DHS SNAP E&T

Changed name of administering state agency from Department of Human Services (DHS) to Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).

p.755-756- Added Pledge State information as Minnesota was selected for FFY26.