

JOSEPH N. DIVINCENZO, JR.
ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE



and the
ESSEX COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

The Department of Economic Development,
Training & Employment and
The Workforce Investment Board

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ESSEX COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD



SAMUEL OKPARAEKE

WIB Executive Director
Workforce Investment Board
Department of Economic Development,
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Putting Essex County First

Who We Are ...



Vision

We envision a county where the high quality of the workforce is a key asset in attracting and retaining business, and where the workforce is supported by a development system that is market-driven and user friendly.

Overview

The Essex County Workforce Investment Board, an employer-driven, strategic planning, policy-making entity, mandated by the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) with maintaining a coordinated and accountable employment and training system that meets the current and future demands of Essex County residents. The Board provides oversight of the Essex County One-Stop system.

The Workforce Investment Board is responsible for creating and promoting an integrated county-wide workforce development system where job seekers can find meaningful employment and employers can find qualified workers. Moreover, the WIB is accountable for developing local performance standards, selecting qualified service providers, and monitoring performance to ensure compliance.

Board Members

Members of the Essex County Workforce Investment Board are appointed by the Essex County Executive and confirmed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. They represent a diverse group of stakeholders including employers, training providers, labor unions, government agencies, and community-based organizations. They are unified by a shared concern regarding the quality of the workforce and the availability of jobs in the county.

W.I.B. Sub-Committees

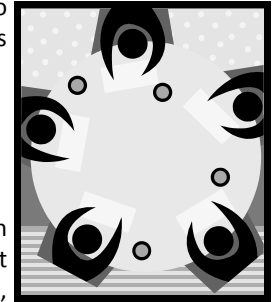
Education-Literacy Committee



The goal of the Education and Literacy Committee is to create a comprehensive system to deliver quality literacy services to residents of Essex County and to facilitate the development of a strategy for collaboration among literacy providers that will support the achievement of individual goals, which may include sustainable employment, self-sufficiency and a better quality of life.

Labor Market Committee

The goal of the Labor Market Committee is to work with representatives from the public sector, education, and private sector to develop a profile of current and future workforce skills that are needed in the Essex County labor market.



Welfare-to-Work Committee

The goal of the Welfare-to-Work Committee is to plan recommendations and guide support programs that attain the goals of the Work First New Jersey program, while ensuring that Welfare recipients are transitioned into permanent, unsubsidized employment. The Committee is responsible for developing plans to utilize the One-Stop System and develop relationships with the business community, service providers, and Human Service organizations to effectively serve the welfare customers of Essex County.



Youth Investment Council

The goal of the Youth Investment Council is to address the special workforce needs of youth at risk in Essex County. The Council is charged with developing a comprehensive, integrated and coordinated system grounded in best practice for youth that support the State and Local vision. Engaging in ongoing dialogue with stakeholders-businesses, schools, youth providers, human service organizations-to identify local needs and gaps in service and to map available resources.