



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE GWIB?

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) is the Governor's chief policy-making body for workforce development in the State of Maryland. The GWIB is responsible for developing policies and strategies to form a coordinated workforce investment system for a State employment and training, economic development and education partners, with significant input from the business community.

The GWIB is a private-sector-led board of 45 members, the majority of whom represent the business community, as mandated by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA). Other members include the governor and the lieutenant governor, cabinet secretaries, college presidents, the state superintendent of schools, elected officials, labor, and representatives of nonprofit organizations.

The GWIB has established itself as an active and engaged Board, with private-sector business representation from key foundational and emerging industries critical to Maryland's growth including aerospace, construction, cybersecurity, energy, financial services, healthcare, information technology, manufacturing, and transportation and logistics. The GWIB works to promote and advance policies and activities that provide Maryland businesses with a competitive advantage by equipping them with a skilled workforce that allows them to successfully compete.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE GWIB?

The GWIB was established by legislative mandate outlined in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA.) In 2003, Maryland's Governor Ehrlich signed Executive Order 01.01.2004.60, expanding the scope of the GWIB to include the following roles:

- development of policies and the dissemination of information that will contribute to high-quality Maryland workforce development, that links with economic development and education, and that offers access for all Marylanders to skill development and labor market opportunities;

- development of a State Plan for Maryland's workforce creation system which sets clear goals and unifies the efforts of the various parts of this system, including education, workforce development, business and economic development, and other services in a coordinated strategy to upgrade and promote the status of Maryland's workforce;
- promotion and coordination of private sector involvement in the workforce investment system through the development of partnerships among State agencies, the business community, and local workforce investment boards;
- establishment and maintenance of an accountability system to measure the results of Maryland's workforce investment system, including programs administered by State and local agencies, in relation to the State Plan; and,
- development and continuous improvement of a statewide workforce investment system of activities that are funded by the WIA or carried out through the one-stop delivery system.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE GWIB?

To guide a nationally-recognized workforce development system that aligns with the economic and educational goals of the State of Maryland and will result in a qualified workforce available to employers across the State.

WHAT IS THE VISION OF THE GWIB?

A Maryland where every person maximizes his or her career potential and employers have access to the human resources they need to be competitive. The vision includes alignment of the business, workforce system, and economic development interests in Maryland; well-integrated, coordinated and collaborative systems across agencies, institutions, local areas, and business; preservation and expansion of Maryland's highly-educated workforce; and, creation of opportunities for all Maryland residents to participate and succeed in the workforce.

WHO SERVES ON THE GWIB BOARD?

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Membership composition of the GWIB is defined by the WIA requirements which state that at least 51% of the members appointed by the Governor shall be owners of businesses, chief executives or operating officers of businesses and other business executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority. Additional members of the Board include:

- Governor and Lt. Governor;
- Secretary, Labor, Licensing and Regulation;
- Secretary, Business and Economic Development;
- Secretary, Higher Education Commission;
- Secretary, Human Resources;
- Secretary, Juvenile Services;
- Secretary, Public Safety and Correctional Services;
- Secretary, Aging,
- Secretary, Veterans Affairs;
- Secretary, Disabilities;
- The State Superintendent of Schools;
- Two representatives of the Maryland Senate;
- Two representatives of the House of Delegates;
- At least one president of a 4-year college or university and community college;
- At least one representative from non-profit service providers;
- Two representatives of organized labor; and
- The President of the Workforce Investment Network of Maryland (WIN).

WHO APPOINTS GWIB BOARD MEMBERS?

GWIB members are appointed by Maryland's Governor and the Maryland General Assembly leadership appoints two state senators and two delegates. GWIB's ex-officio members, such as cabinet secretaries, serve based on the membership requirements of the Workforce Investment Act and the Executive Order.

HOW OFTEN DOES THE GWIB MEET?

The full GWIB meets quarterly in March, June, September and December. The Executive Committee meets on alternating months when the Board does not meet.

HOW LONG ARE PEOPLE APPOINTED TO GWIB?

GWIB Board appointments are for terms of four years. Ex-officio members serve for the duration of their employment.

GWIB STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION

- Lynn M. Reed-Selby, Executive Director
- Diane Pabich, Deputy Director
- Darla Henson, Executive Administrator

Martin Knott, Chair
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