



## 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 53 members, the majority of whom represent the business community, as mandated by the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA), which supersedes 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, cybersecurity, bio technology, advanced manufacturing, construction, financial services, healthcare, tourism, 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?

Maryland Statute and Executive Order established the GWIB in 1983 to promote comprehensive planning and coordination of employment and training programs in the State. In 2015, Maryland's Governor signed Executive Order (01.01.2015.19), which rescinds 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 a high-quality workforce development system;
- development of a State Plan for Maryland's workforce delivery 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 development 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 development system, including programs administered by State and local agencies, in relation to the State Plan; and,
- development and continuous improvement of a statewide workforce development system of activities that are funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) are carried out through the one-stop delivery system.

### WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE GWIB?

The mission of the board is to advise the Governor on statewide workforce development strategies that maximize the state's education, training, and employment resources that support workforce and economic growth in Maryland.

### WHAT IS THE VISION OF THE GWIB?

The vision of the Board is a Maryland where every individual maximizes his or her career potential and employers have access to the human resources they need to be successful in this global economy.

### **WHO SERVES ON THE GWIB BOARD?**

Membership composition of the GWIB is defined by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) requires at least 51% of the members appointed by the Governor shall be a majority of business, 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, Aging;
- Secretary, Department of Commerce;
- Secretary, Disabilities;
- Secretary, Higher Education Commission;
- Secretary, Human Resources;
- Secretary, Juvenile Services;
- Secretary, Labor, Licensing and Regulation;
- Secretary, Public Safety and Correctional Services;
- The State Superintendent of Schools;
- Secretary, Veterans Affairs;
- Two chief elected officials;
- One representative of the Maryland Senate;
- One representative of the House of Delegates;
- At least one president from a community college;
- At least one representative from of labor organization nominated by state labor federations;
- At least one representative who is a member of a labor organization or a training director; 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 one state senator and one delegate. GWIB's ex-officio members, such as cabinet secretaries, serve based on the membership requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity 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 and two years. Ex-officio members serve for the duration of their employment.

#### **GWIB STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **Michael "Mike" DiGiacomo, Executive Director**
- **Diane Pabich, Deputy Director**
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