

NCI Works Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2026
12:00 Noon

Mission Statement

Northwest Central Illinois Works' mission is to work hand-in-hand with business, service, government, education and non-profit organizations to enable workers to work and businesses to compete.

Agenda

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87036884368>
One tap mobile
+13092053325, 87036884368# US
+13126266799, 87036884368# US (Chicago)

Call to Order (Patty Head, Chair)

Roll Call

Approval of the January 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes (Page 1) (Action Item)

Business Meeting

- Review and Approval of the Financial Reports Ending May 2026 (Page 4) (Jessica Green) (Action Item)
- Appointment of Performance Negotiation Team (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Appointment of Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Coordinator (Carrie Folken) (Action Item)
- Request approval for any grant modifications (if necessary) (Carrie Folken) (Possible Action Item)

Other Business

- One Stop Services Committee Report/Minutes (Page 5)
- Status Reports for Special Grants

PY 2025 Apprenticeship Activities

Even though we no longer have the Apprenticeship Expansion Grant, we continue to offer assistance to area entities (public and private) who are interested in learning more about apprenticeships, and those that are interested in establishing a program. As has been reported previously, we have been working throughout PY25 with Sauk Valley Community College and

Tri-County Opportunities Council on an Early Childhood Education RAP. The bullet points below outline what we've encountered during this endeavor.

1. We submitted the standards for their original review in April
2. DOL responded with the request for a letter justifying why what the college and TCOC wanted to design the program the way we did. We submitted that justification letter on behalf of SVCC and TCOC.
3. They then came back and said they wanted it to be a Competency Based program rather than a Hybrid. So, we redid it and resubmitted in May.
4. They are now asking for another justification letter explaining why other educational occupations were not selected such as K-12 teacher. SVCC, TCOC and BEST are working on writing that letter and explaining that other educational occupations do not cover the birth to kindergarten age range and that our participating employer is the Head Start grant entity for our area.

Future updates covering the final status of this program, and the initiation of any new programs, will be provided regularly.

PY 2025 State of Illinois Supplemental Grant

The State Supplemental grant is winding down with Work Based Learning still the only program that will continue until June 30th or the complete spending of the grant. We received the notice for next years grant and our allocation is about 40,000.00 more than this year. Around 284,000. I asked the One Stop Services Committee of NCI Works if they had any ideas to help with workforce needs in our system that I could use these funds for. Making this more a system service and not just a one program grant. I will be completing that grant for the July 24th submission.

Train the Trainer grant

The training for the trainers has been ongoing. Staff have had their in-person 2-day hands on training and Joel and Kerri will be completed Rockford's training. The system will go live on July 1st and Joel and Kerri will be holding Technical Assistance meetings to help with any issues.

NCI Works Meeting Schedule for 2026:

September 1, 2026
November 3, 2026

Public Comments

Adjournment