



Seventh Planning District Consortium WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PLAN PY 05- PY 06

H. Coordination and Non-Duplication

- 1. Describe how your LWIA/LWIB will coordinate and integrate the services provided through all the LDOL programs identified in the Unified Plan in order to meet the needs of its customers, insure there is no overlap or duplication among the programs, and insure collaboration with key partners and continuous improvement of the workforce investment system. (LWIAs are encouraged to address several coordination efforts in a single narrative).**

Many of the funded employment and training programs under the umbrella of LDOL, such as Wagner Peyser, Veterans Program, TAA (Trade Adjustment Assistance), STEP, formerly WTW (Welfare-to-Work), and Rapid Response, have long standing working relationships with the local Title I Workforce Investment Act program and its predecessor. The operators of these programs have demonstrated over the years their knowledge of the sponsored activities and how these activities complement each other. Some of the sponsors of these programs serve as representatives on the local Workforce Investment Boards. They have input on the kinds of activities that are implemented through the Title I Workforce Investment Act

Program. They have signed a memorandum of understanding that describes the scope of each program

and values shared by each entity for the one-stop system. The MOU also addresses how partner programs can utilize a common client referral process. Several cross-training sessions have been held with local partners to acquaint each other with their services, and how services can be improved for our customers, and the integrity of the system.

Finally, as stated in other parts of this document, the goal of our Redesign Initiative is to better coordinate the delivery of employment and training services by LDOL's Wagner-Peyser funded program staff and the Local Workforce Investment Board staff under the authority of the local WIBs. This restructuring will require the alignment of workforce services functions across Wagner-Peyser and WIA programs.

- 2. Describe the structure/process for LWIBs in your region to collaborate and communicate with each other. Describe what steps the LWIAs are taking to improve operational collaboration of the workforce investment activities and other related activities and programs within the region (e.g. joint activities, MOUs, coordinated policies, etc). How will the LWIBs eliminate any existing barriers to coordination?**

The local staffs of the Workforce Investment Boards in Region 7 have long-standing working relationships in employment and training programs. Heretofore, they have engaged in combined activities such as coordinating On-the-Job training activities with employers, Rapid Response, the Region's Universal Access Committee, staff training, and sponsoring Youth Day Activities with the Consortium for Education, Research, and Technology (CERT) organization. In fact, the two (2) Workforce Investment Boards have several of the same members participating on each board. They are knowledgeable of what's happening with the two (2) WIBs in the region and

can convey such information to other board members.

The staffs of the local Workforce Investment Boards have come together on the writing of the two (2) year program plan. The staffs have also discussed ways of combining On-the-Job training activities under one contract with specific employers, such as the local glass factory, Libbey Glass, a potential healthcare start-up facility, Jordan's Crossing, and some of the General Motors Suppliers in the region.

The local WIB Directors are members of the State's Director's Association and are in constant communication concerning state, local and regional issues. They have the pulse of their respective boards and can draft policies and procedures that facilitate necessary collaboration on the part of the WIBs.

- 3. Describe how the LWIB and Youth Council are working with any cross-cutting organizations to develop an integrated vision for serving youth in the LWIA and region within the context of workforce investment, social service, juvenile justice, and education. Describe any collaborative cross-agency approaches for both policy development and service delivery for youth.**

The local Workforce Investment Board and the youth council are actively engaged in coordinating youth activities and identifying effective service providers. One of the most prominent youth activities that's held on a regional basis is our Youth Day Activities with the Consortium for Education, Research, and Technology (CERT) organization. The 2005 theme for the youth day activities is "No Skills, No Thrills-Really Check." The focus of the program is to acquaint youth in the region with information on enhancing their educational outlook, improving their life conditions and seeking job opportunities. The sponsors of the program not only involved the local Workforce Investment Act programs but the Shreveport Job Corps Center and the local Bossier Parish Community College. This year's program is to be held at the Louisiana State University Campus in Shreveport. We anticipate this relationship and activity will grow to enormous heights and involve a wide segment of the community.