

What is a sector?

A group of industries with similar business processes, products or services. Traded sectors often locate near the resources necessary to create products, while local services sectors tend to exist throughout the state since these are population based.

Workforce Development Council Sectors and Sector Contacts

Workforce Development Councils (WDCs) provide strategic economic development direction for their local areas by closing skill gaps that enables people to get better jobs and help businesses thrive. WDC's also provide workforce development planning and promote coordination between education, training and employment efforts in their communities.

Seattle-King County

Bryan Pannell
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King County

- Healthcare
- Manufacturing – Aerospace and Maritime
- Construction – including Energy Efficiency
- Trade – including Wholesale and Retail
- Information Technology – including Interactive Media

Regional labor economist:

Anneliese Vance-Sherman -
425.258.6315

Workforce Central Pierce County

- Healthcare
Patrick Williams
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253.254.7845
- Aerospace Manufacturing
Madalain Merton
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253.254.7845
- Trade/Deep Sea Transport/
Warehouse/Logistics
Linda Helenberg
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253.254.7845
- IT
Andy Wells
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253.254.7845
- National Security
Sarah Wright
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253.254.7845
- Building Products Manufacturing
Madalain Merton
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253.254.7845
- Food Manufacturing
Madalain Merton
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253.254.7845

Regional labor economist:

Jim Vleming - 360.570.6945

Southwest Washington

Lee Ann Lawrence
llawrence@swwdc.org
360.567.3170

Tracy Schreiber
tschreiber@swwdc.org
360.567.3170

Wabkiakum, Cowlitz and Clark Counties

- Manufacturing
- Transportation, Logistics and Warehousing
- Healthcare
- Professional Services
- Construction
- Agricultural Processing

Regional labor economist:

Scott Bailey - 360.735.4995

Workforce Snohomish

Paul Garcia
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425.921.3491

Snohomish County

- Aerospace and Composites Manufacturing
- Computer and Electronic Manufacturing
- Ship and Boat Building and Composites Manufacturing
- Wood Furniture and Cabinets Manufacturing
- Heavy Construction
- IT
- Research and Development in Biotechnology
- Forest Product& Navy
- Maritime
- Healthcare
- Agriculture
- Medical devices
- Advanced manufacturing

Regional labor economist:

Anneliese Vance-Sherman -
425.258.6315

Pacific Mountain

Cheryl Fambles
cheryl@pactmtn.org
360.704.3568

Grays Harbor, Mason, Thurston, Pacific and Lewis Counties

- Food Production
- Wood Product & Paper Manufacturing
- Life Sciences
- Chemical Product and Plastics Manufacturing
- IT/Telecom

Regional labor economist:

Jim Vleming - 360.570.6945

Spokane area

Mark Matke
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Spokane County

- Health Services
- Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing
- Professional and Technical Services
- Business Support Services
- Energy, Waste Management and Remediation
- Finance and Insurance

Regional labor economist:

Doug Tweedy - 509.532.3188

South Central

David Gonzales
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509.574.1950

Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat and Skamania Counties

- Agriculture
- Healthcare
- Manufacturing
- Clean Technology/Renewable Energy
- Warehousing & Distribution
- Professional & Business Services
- Construction

Regional labor economist:

Donald Meseck - 509.573.4564
Scott Bailey - 360.735.4995

Northwest

Gary Smith
gsmith@workforcenorthwest.org
360.676.3241

Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan and Island Counties

- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Healthcare

Regional labor economist:

Anneliese Vance-Sherman -
425.258.6315

Benton-Franklin

Cos Edwards
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509.734.5984

Benton and Franklin Counties

- Waste Management & Remediation
- Healthcare Services
- Physical Science Research and Development
- Agriculture and Food Processing
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Business Support Services

Regional labor economist:

Ajsa Suljic 509.734.5928

> Continued on page 2.

WDC Sectors & Sector Contacts *continued*

North Central

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*Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas,
Adams and Grant Counties*

- Agriculture
- Healthcare
- Food Processing
- Chemical and Metal Manufacturing
- Electric Utilities
- Trade

Regional labor economist:

Donald Meseck - 509.573.4564

Olympic

Bob Potter
bpotter@co.kitsap.wa.us
360.337.4767

*Jefferson, Clallam, and
Kitsap Counties*

- Navy
- Health Care, Rehabilitation, and Elder Care
- Marine and Advanced Manufacturing and Marine Port Activity
- Wood Products
- Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Fishing Vessel and Equipment Repair
- Technical Services
- Construction
- Wholesale Trade Distribution Services
- Tourism, Accommodation, Hospitality, Gaming and Recreation

Regional labor economist:

Jim Vleming - 360.570.6945

Eastern Washington

Tom O'Brien
tobrien@ruralresources.org
509.684.8421

*Ferry, Pend Oreille, Garfield, Stevens,
Lincoln, Whitman, Columbia, Walla
Walla and Asotin Counties*

- Manufacturing (including food processing)
- Transportation (distribution chain)
- Health Services
- Financial Services
- Forest Services
- Mining

Regional labor economist:

Doug Tweedy - 509.532.3188

Ajsa Suljic - 509.734.5928

Washington State Workforce Training

Washington Work Start

Washington Work Start is an economic development driven workforce training program designed to provide new and existing employers with flexible customized training in direct alignment with the state's business recruitment and expansion efforts.

The program targets key strategic growth sectors including: aerospace, clean technology, advanced materials, maritime, forest products, agribusiness, life sciences, information, communications and technology, and locally targeted industries.

Work Start helped create or save 432 jobs at these 10 Washington companies, including 334 new jobs created and 98 jobs saved from elimination.

*Department of Commerce
206.256.6142*

Job Skills Program

Washington's Job Skills Program (JSP) provides funding for customized, short-term and job-specific training for eligible businesses using dollar-for-dollar matching grants. Grants are awarded to educational institutions that partner with employers to undertake a JSP project. The participating employer must match the grant amount with cash or in-kind program support.

JSP supports three types of training: new employee training, retraining and upgrade training. JSP projects requirements include:

- An eligible educational institution must be a public secondary or postsecondary institution, an independent institution, or a private career school or college within the state authorized by law to provide a program of skills training or education beyond the secondary school level.

- An eligible business partner must be a private corporation, institution, firm, person, group, or association concerned with commerce, trade, manufacturing, or the provision of services within Washington, or a public or nonprofit hospital licensed by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).

Non-profit organizations meeting the description above are eligible. Government and municipal agencies including tribal governments are not eligible.

The application process is competitive when requests exceed available funds. Applications may be submitted at any time and awards are made on the basis of funding priorities and available funding.

Anna Nikolaeva:
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360.704.4342

Customized Training

The Washington Customized Training Program (CTP) was created by the State Legislature to provide training assistance to businesses that provide employment opportunities in Washington. State Board for Community & Technical Colleges pays the costs up front for customized training. After training is completed the business repays the costs to the SBCTC interest free and may take a state B&O tax credit with each payment.

Training is provided by community, technical or private career colleges and can include formal training in:

- Basic education and skills
- English language for non-native speakers
- Technical skills and job-related instruction
- Skills assessment and evaluation
- Training equipment, materials, facilities and supplies

Eligible businesses must be:

- Located in the State of Washington and providing employment opportunities
- A Washington State B&O taxpayer
- In need of assistance in training employees
- Able to contract with an eligible training institution for short-term, customized training services.

Eligible training institution must be:

- A public, State community or technical college or a Washington-located, private career school or college licensed by either the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board or the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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High Demand FTE Funding

High Demand FTE Funding is an industry-focused funding initiative appropriated by the Washington State Legislature in 2013. In 2014, \$8 million in funding was announced for 21 Washington community and technical colleges to increase student capacity in high-demand aerospace programs. The funding created positions for more than 1,000 students across Washington supporting programs in a wide variety of specialties like machining and composite materials manufacturing.

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Washington State Department of Commerce - Office of Economic Development and Competitiveness

The Department of Commerce has a mission to grow and improve jobs in Washington State by championing thriving communities, a prosperous economy, and sustainable infrastructure. The Office of Economic Development and Competitiveness (OEDC) employs a sector-based economic development strategy in recognition of the intense international and interstate competition for good jobs. OEDC identifies opportunities and strategies for supporting existing employers and cultivating new ones in Washington.

Contact the Dept. of Commerce sector leads for information about specific OEDC sector strategy efforts happening in your local area or for support with related local workforce development sector initiatives

Agriculture

Ignacio Marquez
imarquez@agr.wa.gov
509.249.6970

Ignacio is the agriculture sector contact and works directly with local businesses and industry stakeholders.

Washington's rich soils, diverse climates and large-scale irrigation make it one of the most productive growing regions in the world. The state's \$51 billion food and agriculture industry employs approximately 160,000 people.

More information:
www.agr.wa.gov

Washington State Office of Aerospace

Alex Pietsch
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360.742.4379

Alex serves as the principal adviser on aerospace-related issues and coordinates activities to promote growth of the industry throughout the state. He also directs the Washington Aerospace Partnership, a collaboration between government, business and labor to realize its vision of Washington—the recognized worldwide center of excellence in aerospace innovation, design and manufacturing.

More information:
www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Office-of-Aerospace.aspx

Clean Technology

Brian Young
brian.young@commerce.wa.gov
206.256.6129

Brian is the point of contact for clean technology companies who want to navigate Washington State's political and economic landscape. He is focused on developing a prosperous and varied clean tech sector based on the state's existing strengths.

More information:
www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Washington-State-Clean-Technology.aspx

Information, Communication Technology Sector (ICT)

Alex Pietsch
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360.742.4379

Washington State's ITC sector champions statewide sector specific economic development efforts by strengthening private and public collaborative efforts that support life science and global health sector partnerships in all communities across the state.

More information:
[www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Information-and-Communication-Technologies-\(ITC\).aspx](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Information-and-Communication-Technologies-(ITC).aspx)

Life Science and Global Health Sector

Maura Little
maura.little@commerce.wa.gov
206.256.6107

Maura supports the development of the life science and global health industry, including working with industry leaders on recruitment, retention and expansion of the sector statewide

More information:
www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Washington-State-Life-Sciences-and-Global-Health.aspx

Maritime Sector

Steve Sewell
Steve.sewell@commerce.wa.gov
206.256.6104

Steve works closely with industry stakeholders and other government agencies to retain, grow and expand jobs in the state's maritime industries.

More information:
www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Washington-State-Maritime.aspx

Military and Defense Sector

Kristiné Reeves
Kristine.reeves@commerce.wa.gov
206.256.6105

Kristiné focuses on the public and private elements of economic development as it relates to infrastructure, suppliers and contractors and community advocacy and public infrastructure organizations.

More information:
www.commerce.wa.gov/Economic-Development/Industry-Sectors/Pages/Washington-State-Military-and-Defense.aspx

Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) - Centers of Excellence

Centers of Excellence are flagship institutions that build and sustain Washington's competitive advantage through statewide leadership. Each Center focuses on a targeted industry that drives the state's economy and is built upon a reputation for fast, flexible, quality education and training programs. Centers are guided by industry representatives to lead collaborative and coordinated statewide education and training efforts to build a competitive workforce in a global economy.

Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing

Mary Kaye Bredeson, Director
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coeaerospace.com

Everett Community College hosts the [Center of Excellence for Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing](#). The Center's mission is to increase the competitiveness of manufacturers using composites and other advanced materials through workforce training and education

Agriculture

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Walla Walla Community College's [Agricultural Center of Excellence](#) provides collaborative leadership in addressing the emerging workforce and economic development interests of rural, urban, and related agriculture in Washington State.

WIOA Local Governance & Sector Strategies Subcommittee contacts:

The Workforce Board advocates for a better educated, better prepared Washington workforce. Governor Jay Inslee designated the Workforce Board as the official State Workforce Development Board under WIOA.

Dave Wallace - Workforce Training & Education Coordination Board
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360.709.4613

Allied Health

Dan Ferguson, Director
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dferguson@yvcc.edu
2.yvcc.edu/coe/default.html

The [Allied Health Center of Excellence](#), located at Yakima Valley College, is dedicated to addressing Washington State's healthcare workforce needs of today and tomorrow.

Clean Energy

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bhins-turner@centralia.edu
cleanenergyexcellence.org

The [Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy](#) at Centralia College provides leadership for a growing alliance of energy industry and college partners. The Center provides opportunities that focus on the future of the energy industry.

Computing and Technology

Maureen Majury, Director
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coeforict.org

The [Center of Excellence for Information and Computing Technology](#) is hosted at Bellevue College and partners with the National Workforce Center for Emerging Technologies (NW CET) to provide services, research, programs, and events that serve Washington State community and technical college faculty and students, as well as industry and the K-12 system.

Construction

Shana Peschek, Director
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speschek@rtc.edu
constructioncenterofexcellence.com

The [Construction Center of Excellence](#) at Renton Technical College is a resource for industry professionals, colleges, and others interested in preparing a diverse workforce for the construction industry and promotes awareness of career pathways within construction.

Education

Jamie Wells, Director
253-833-9111 ext. 4963
jwells@greenriver.edu
<http://www.careersined.org>

The [Washington State Center of Excellence for Careers in Education](#), housed at Green River College, provides support, mentoring, and advising to community colleges and their K-20 partners for the creation and expansion of career-ladder programs in education.

Global Trade and Supply Chain Management

Meg Ryan, Director
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www.coeglobaltrade.com

The Center of Excellence for Global Trade and Supply Chain Management is housed at Highline College and led by a statewide advisory committee. The Center facilitates linkages and partnerships among education, business, industry, community partners, and workforce intermediaries, advocating for Washington State both nationally and internationally in international trade, transportation, and logistics.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Linda Crerar, Director
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wp.pierce.ctc.edu/blog/hsemcoe

Pierce College's [Center for Excellence in Homeland Security](#) facilitates and coordinates Homeland Security initiatives with a coalition of 34 community and technical colleges, public agencies, and private sector organizations. The Center prepares a skilled workforce to maintain our national security.

Marine Manufacturing and Technology

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marinecenterofexcellence.com

Skagit Valley College is home to the [Northwest Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing and Technology](#). The Center is a hub for innovative discussions, resources, training and education services that create a repository of information and illuminate best practices related to industry trends and emerging technologies to foster economic vitality.

For questions about this document:

For more information or advice on how to connect with sector contacts, call Jennifer Peppin in the Employment Security Department's Workforce Development & Strategic Initiatives Office.

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360.902.9574