

Attachment: Minnesota State Energy Sector Partnership Charter

Introduction

The Minnesota State Energy Sector Partnership (MSESP) was formed in response to the U.S. Department of Labor's solicitation for grant applications to develop a statewide energy sector strategy through a comprehensive partnership and development of a Sector Plan. The Department of Labor directs states to provide training, job placement, and related activities that reflect a comprehensive statewide energy sector strategy including the Governor's overall workforce vision, State energy policies, and training activities that lead to employment in targeted industry sectors.

Minnesota's targeted industries include:

- the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofit industries;
- the renewable electric power industry; and
- the biofuels industry.

Membership

The MSESP is made up of representatives from the State Workforce Agency, local Workforce Investment Boards or regional consortia of WIBs and One Stop Career Center delivery systems. The membership of the MSESP shall also include representatives with decision-making authority from the following organizations:

- State Cabinet officials from agencies receiving Recovery Act funding related to relevant energy efficiency and renewable energy resources and other green occupations and industries in the State;
- Representatives from the energy efficiency and renewable energy business and industries;
- Labor organizations;
- State Apprenticeship Agencies;
- Nonprofit organizations including community and faith-based organizations;
- The education and training community, which includes the continuum of education at all levels;
- State and Local veterans' agencies; and
- Economic Development organizations.

Strategic Vision

Minnesota is a global leader in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

Mission Statement

Forge an integrated and demand-driven system of education, training, and support services in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries that anticipates and advances skill attainment and sustainable career pathways.

Goals

- *Meeting demand – recruitment and training:* Establish a workforce engagement plan for future and incumbent workers that expands the clean energy industry and workforce in Minnesota.
- *Placement and retention:* Create industry sector partnerships to facilitate placement and on-going education and support needs of workers to assure high-levels of retention.
- *Alignment and coordination:* Align industry, education, and employment resources at the regional and state level to leverage and maximize existing and new opportunities.
- *Industry sector growth:* Identify and incur measurable growth in industry, workforce, and education sectors, leveraging Minnesota’s unique human and natural resources.
- *Sustaining the mission:* 1) Communicate regularly and capitalize on the Partnership’s individual and collective strengths. 2) Sustain funding for mission by demonstrating return on investment and ensuring career pathways are accessible, flexible, and accountable to industry demand.

Guiding Principles

- *Demand-driven solutions:* Recognize that the needs of industry and learner-workers drive the design and delivery of education and training programs.
- *Industry participation:* Encourage industry and public entities to proactively collaborate on research and development, anticipating future trends, and provide continuing education to ensure job security for workers and prosperity in Minnesota.
- *Coordination and collaboration:* 1) Avoid duplication, enhance consistent long-term communication among all stakeholders, and promote regional customization. 2) New initiatives must build off existing educational delivery mechanisms and institutions, specifically including apprenticeship programs, to ensure they supplement and do not supplant them.
- *Fairness and equity:* 1) Leverage the talents of the Partnership to engage in extraordinary dissemination, inclusion, and technical assistance strategies. 2) Programs shall be inclusive for and accessible to all working learners in Minnesota.
- *Continuous improvement:* Regularly inventory and monitor strengths and weaknesses of current initiatives and develop a systematic approach for needs identification, effectiveness of initiatives, and the Partnership.

Operation and Roles

The MSESP will serve as a steering committee throughout the life of the grant to inform the planning and implementation of the State’s energy sector strategy and ensure the overall success of the grant. Each member will be expected to promote an integrated system of education, training, and supportive services that promotes skill attainment and career pathway development for workers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. The MSESP will meet 5-6 times through the three-year life of the grant.

Commitment

I participated in the MSESP planning process and agree with the stated mission, goals and guiding principles set forth.