

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
HEARTLAND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CONSORTIUM**

This Agreement is made and entered into between Counties of DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, and Okeechobee for continuation of the Heartland Workforce Investment Consortium.

WHEREAS, the Counties are political subdivisions of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, hereinafter referred to as the Act, federal Public Law 113-128, replacing the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, federal Public Law 105-220, which replaced the Job Training Partnership Act as amended in 1996, and restructured a multitude of workforce development programs into an integrated workforce investment system and authorized the expenditure of federal funds for allowable services and activities in local workforce investment (development) areas; and

WHEREAS, as recommended by the Jobs and Education Partnership Act in 1998, the Counties of DeSoto, Hardee and Highlands were designated by the Governor of the State of Florida, as a three county workforce development area, Region 19, and this designation has been automatically approved by the current Governor to continue under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; and

WHEREAS, the three participating counties had previously entered into an Interlocal Agreement in 1996, creating the Heartland Workforce Investment Consortium, and had entered into agreement with a Private Industry Council acting as grant recipient and administrative entity until such time as the Heartland Workforce Investment Board, Inc. was formed, and continued under that agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Okeechobee County has requested re-designation from the primarily urban workforce development area known as Region 20 to the primarily rural workforce development area known as Region 19; and

WHEREAS, the Boards of County Commissioners for the Counties of DeSoto, Hardee, and Highlands agreed to accept Okeechobee County into workforce development Region 19, as well as into the Heartland Workforce Investment Consortium; and

WHEREAS, CareerSource Florida and the Governor of the State of Florida have agreed to the re-designation of Okeechobee County from workforce development Region 20 into Region 19; and

WHEREAS, the Heartland Workforce Investment Board, Inc., d/b/a CareerSource Heartland, continues to serve as the grant recipient and administrative entity for Region 19; and

WHEREAS, the Region 19 Workforce Investment Area is required to submit a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act plan pursuant to Section 108 of the Act.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. By virtue of this Interlocal Agreement, the participating four counties agree to accept the Governor's designation of the four county local area as Workforce Development Area for Region 19 for purposes of programs promulgated under the Act;
2. Each of the parties to this agreement is a County of the State of Florida and, as such, is a general purpose political subdivision which has the power to levy taxes and spend funds, as well as generate corporate and police powers. The governing body of each of the parties to the agreement is its Board of County Commissioners and each party to the agreement is identified as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
DeSoto County	201 East Oak Street, Suite 201 Arcadia, Florida 34266
Hardee County	412 W. Orange Street, Room 103 Wauchula, Florida 33873
Highlands County	600 S. Commerce Avenue Sebring, Florida 33870
Okeechobee County	304 NW 2nd Street, Room 123 Okeechobee, Florida 34972

3. No city or government unit within the geographical jurisdiction of this agreement has informed the parties to this agreement that it does not desire to have services provided through this agreement.
4. The geographical areas that will be served by this agreement are the entire geographical areas of each of the four member counties, which geographical areas are legally described in Chapter 7, Florida Statutes.
5. This agreement is not prevented by state or local law from taking effect in the entire geographical area that it intends to serve.
6. The Boards of County Commissioners of the parties to this agreement retain the ultimate decision-making power with regard to all responsibilities mandated under the Act to Chief Elected Officials. The Consortium shall be operated and managed by a four-member Executive Board. Each Board of County Commissioners will designate one of its members to serve on the four-member Executive Board at the pleasure of the appointing Board of County Commissioners. The Executive Board shall be the vehicle through which the Boards of County Commissioners of the member counties participate in the planning, approval, and operation of the employment and training assistance program as mandated under the Act.

7. WHEREAS, in accordance with current Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Final Guidance – DEO FG-073, dated June 29, 2012, which states, in part, that “Chief Elected Officials shall develop a process for soliciting RWB nominations and for selecting RWB members”, and in consideration of the authority vested in the Chief Elected Officials, the following process is adopted for the nomination and selection of members for the CareerSource Heartland Board of Directors:
- i. The CareerSource Heartland President/CEO, after coordinating with the CareerSource Heartland Board Chair, will notify the Executive Board of a vacancy on the Board of Directors. The notification will include:
 - Name of resigning/terminated member
 - County of record of resigning/terminated member
 - Member Category: Business, Labor Organization Joint Labor-Management Apprenticeship Program, Community-based Organizations representing Individuals with Disabilities, Community-based Organizations representing Veterans, Community-based Organizations representing Youth, Education and Training Provider-Adult Education and Literacy, Education and Training Provider-Institution of Higher Education, Education and Training Provider-Other Providers, Government Representative-Economic Development, Government Representative-Employment Service, Government Representative-Vocational Rehabilitation, Government Representative-Other, or Other (identify the specific group/program being represented).
 - ii. The President/CEO, on behalf of and in conjunction with the Executive Board, will seek and solicit the names of individuals who represent organizations, agencies or other entities in the respective vacant Member Category. The local member nomination and selection process will be in accordance with guidance as outlined in Section 107 of the Act; Section 445.007 (1), F.S.; Florida DEO FG-073, and any other applicable State or Federal laws. Nominees for Board membership must be individuals with optimum policy making authority within the employer community and within the entities they are to represent.
 - iii. The CareerSource Heartland Board Chair will present nominees for consideration of approval by the Executive Board at the next regularly-scheduled CareerSource Heartland Quarterly Board Meeting, or sooner, at the discretion of the Executive Board.
 - iv. The regional workforce board membership is restricted to the requirements as outlined in Federal and State laws. To appoint additional Board members above the designated limit, approval by the Governor is required.
 - v. The President/CEO will be charged with maintaining all files and supporting documentation related to the nomination and selection process of members of the CareerSource Heartland Board, along with names of nominating organizations and names of all candidates and their qualifications, for a minimum of five years.

8. Grant agreements shall be signed by the Chair of the Executive Board, or such other person as the Executive Board may hereafter designate, and by the Chair of the CareerSource Heartland Board, or such other person as the CareerSource Heartland Board may hereafter designate.
9. To the extent consistent with state and local law, each County that is a party to this agreement accepts joint and separate responsibility for the operation of this program.
10. The Consortium authorizes the Executive Board to provide, by contract, for the administration of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grants/allocations by the Heartland Workforce Investment Board, Inc., /d/b/a CareerSource Heartland, which has been created to perform duties under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
11. The Consortium authorizes the Executive Board to hire or contract for whatever staff it deems necessary and appropriate to carry out its responsibilities and duties under this agreement and the Act, and any other related applicable State or Federal laws.
12. The Executive Board shall, pursuant to approval via action taken by the CareerSource Heartland Board of Directors and majority vote of the Executive Board, select and designate a grant recipient and program administrator to administer the Local Plan(s) mandated by the Act and shall also approve and jointly submit, with CareerSource Heartland, the Local Plan(s).
13. It is the intent of this agreement that funding of this program shall be accomplished by grants obtained pursuant to the Act and any other available state, federal, local or private sector grants.
14. This agreement shall have the duration time equal to the time during which all of the member Counties hereto constitute a single designated Local Workforce Investment Area; provided, however, that any party to this agreement may withdraw from this agreement as provided by the Act.
15. This agreement and any amendments hereto shall be effective upon being filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of each county that is a party to this agreement.
16. This agreement shall supersede all previous Heartland Workforce Investment Consortium Interlocal Agreements, which are hereby terminated.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement on the dates indicated below:

DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Its Board of County Commissioners

[Signature]
Colonel Quave, Chair

Mandy Hines
Attested By: County Clerk

Date: 7/13/15

HARDEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Its Board of County Commissioners

[Signature]
Mike Thompson, Chair

Victoria L. Rogers
VICTORIA L. ROGERS, EX-OFFICIO CLERK
TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FIVE (5) OF FIVE (5) July 7, 2015

Date: 6/04/15

HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Its Board of County Commissioners

[Signature]
WILLIAM R. HANDLEY, Chair



[Signature]
Attested By: County Clerk

Date: 6/16/2015

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Its Board of County Commissioners

[Signature]
FRANK IRBY, Chair

Paula Robson - Deputy Clerk
Attested By: County Clerk

Date: 6-11-2015

SHARON ROBERTSON, CLERK

Reviewed For Legal
Sufficiency

JUN 11 2015

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