

Southern Nevada's Industry Sector Partnerships

Executive Summary

Our region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) identifies seven industries of focus that will help us continue to diversify and grow our economic base:

1. Healthcare Services
2. General & Advanced Manufacturing
3. Information & Communication Technologies
4. Transportation & Logistics Technologies
5. Clean Technologies
6. Business & Financial Services
7. Creative Industries

Multiple regional stakeholders have partnered to launch employer-focused sector partnerships for each one of these industries. These partners include the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance, Workforce Connections, Vegas Chamber, Clark County School District, College of Southern Nevada, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Nevada State College, Nevada Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation, and others. A nationally recognized model called the Next Generation (Next Gen) Sector Partnerships is being utilized. The model establishes industry-led, community supported partnerships that strengthen regional economies and connect people to jobs.

In 2022, all seven partnerships were successfully launched. The first step was to convene employers from each industry to identify their talent needs. The launch groups also included community partners, and skill-acquisition partners from the secondary and post-secondary systems. The employer-led groups worked together over the course of half-a-day to identify common short, mid, and long-term workforce challenges. By the end of the sessions, they had also identified opportunities for collective action. The employers represented organizations of all types and sizes. Working groups were established post-launch, to further refine priorities and action steps.

Current activities

Several actions that have been deployed or are in the process of being deployed, include:

1. Immediate hiring needs
 - A. Resources through the EmployNV Business Hubs
 - B. Alternate labor pools: re-entry, veterans, people with disabilities, youth, immigrants, etc.
 - C. Industry-specific hiring fairs and recruitment events
2. Upskilling needs
 - A. Incumbent worker training
 - B. Registered apprenticeship workshop & available resources

3. Talent pipeline needs

A. Better alignment to K-12 classrooms

- I. Industry-specific Youth Activity Books for elementary schools highlighting in-demand occupations
- II. Online interactive platform to connect middle and high school classrooms to industry
- III. Visits for employers to middle and high school classrooms
- IV. Visits for students to employer sites

B. Better alignment to post-secondary classrooms

- I. Employer-driven curriculum
- II. Employer-driven internships and other work-based learning

Next steps

The seven industry sector partnerships will continue to review the progress and direct next steps. Employers will help craft the solutions that best meet their needs with respect to future talent pipelines, increasing diversity in hiring, and regional investments in workforce development for their sector.

Additional funding streams beyond Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) are being used to support workforce development activities. Workforce Connections was awarded American Recovery Plan funds from the City of Las Vegas to begin delivering recovery services and work-based learning opportunities through the Employ NV Business Hubs. Workforce Connections was also awarded Governor's Reserve Funds from DETR to delivering incumbent worker training to help upskill existing employees through the Employ NV Business Hubs. We are in the award process for Community Project Funds through our congressional delegation.

If you are an employer or know of an employer who would like to join one of seven industry sector partnerships, please contact Adrina at ark@nvworkforceconnections.org for more information.