



The Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) has up to 27 members (more than 1/2 from the private sector) representing the two counties. The Board has members from the area's largest private sector companies including Thomson Reuters and St. Francis Regional Medical Center. It also has numerous representatives from smaller companies. Federal law established the categories for public sector representation. Categories include such areas as labor, education, economic development, rehabilitation services, public employment and more. The executive committee focuses on having a diverse membership businesswise and geographically.

Overview:

- The WDB oversees the employment programs in Dakota and Scott Counties. Customers are both job seekers and employers. Services to job seekers are provided primarily via the CareerForce Centers located in Burnsville, West St. Paul and Shakopee.
- Job seeker services range from services for general job seekers (and have no eligibility requirements) to eligibility-based programs that offer more one-on-one services as well as funding for training and/or other needs.
- There are also a variety of services for employers.
- The Dakota-Scott WDB is known state-wide for its innovative approach and being a leader on issues. Its focus is partially on ensuring existing programs are doing well but more so on looking forward on facing upcoming workforce and economic development challenges.

WDB Mission Statement: The Dakota-Scott WDB leads, collaborates and provides linkages that facilitate equity-informed workforce planning and supports economic development providing individuals, families, employers and the community opportunities to transform lives through meaningful employment.

WDB Vision Statement: To be an inclusive and equitable workforce development system that benefits employers and job seekers so that residents have the competencies, employment skills, and education to support themselves and their families, and employers will have access to the skilled and educated workforce necessary to remain competitive in a dynamic global economy.

Goals:

- Effectively match employer needs with employee skills (for the economic vitality of the community).
- Convene business, community groups, and educators/trainers to facilitate collaboration between these groups to advance employment opportunities.
- Be the recognized expert and voice on addressing local workforce solutions.