



**Metro Denver WIRED Initiative
Solutions Teams Scopes of Work
April 2008**

Connecting to Industry.

- Develop ways in which information and access to internships, externships, apprenticeships and similar work-based experiences can be accessed by students, teachers, incumbent workers, out-of-school-youth, etc.
- Develop policies to provide incentives to:
 - Higher education institutions for retaining graduates in Colorado,
 - Support collaboration between academics and industry, and
 - Encourage individuals from industry to go into academia.
- Foster the creation of long-term partnerships between industry, education and the public workforce system.
- Promote connections among entrepreneurs in the targeted industry clusters.

Convener:

Jerry McCarthy, WIRED Bioscience Industry Coordinator: jerome.mccarthy@metrodenver.org

Co-Chairs:

Barbara Bauer

Inta Morris, Assistant Director for Interdepartmental Affairs, Colorado Department of Higher Education

Metro Denver 2010.

- Begin process of identifying entities/partnerships/networks to sustain WIRED work after grant ends.
- Identify and leverage existing and/or secure new source/s of funding to provide sustainable support to this successor entity.
- Address any policy issues impacting target industries, education, and/or workforce, and identify policy initiatives and appropriate parties for moving initiatives forward.

Convener: Vicky Lea, WIRED Aerospace Industry Coordinator: vicky.lea@metrodenver.org

Chair: André Pettigrew, Director, Office of Economic Development, City and County of Denver

Growing Our Own.

- Stimulate K-12 and higher education students' engagement in STEM, as well as business skills (e.g. critical thinking, teamwork, presentation).
- Support initiatives that promote a more rigorous K-12 STEM education.
- Promote the development or replication of program/s that will increase the number of students who graduate from high school.
- Promote partnerships between the public workforce system's youth programs and high schools.
- Foster development of Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers.
- Address training needs of out-of-school youth.
- Work with Small Business Development Centers on Youth Biz initiative to encourage K-12 students to explore small business ownership in the targeted industries.
- Increase use and replication of existing models that support multiple career pathways to employment in target industries.

Convener: Beverly Buck, Director, Communications and Development, Center for Education Policy Analysis, School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado Denver:
beverly.buck@cudenver.edu

Chair: Carole Basile, Associate Professor, School of Education and Human Development, University of Colorado at Denver

Optimizing Today's Workforce.

- Identify and develop programs – or partner with existing programs, special projects and grants – to provide employment and training resources for untapped sources of talent (e.g. ex-military, “Boomers,” incumbent workers, unemployed/underemployed workers, ex-offenders, underrepresented populations, etc.).
- Create recruitment programs to attract these untapped sources of talent to targeted industries.
- Increase target industries' use of region's Workforce Development system.
- Increase use and replication of existing models that support multiple career pathways to employment in target industries.

Convener: Mary Jeffreys, WIRED Energy Industry Coordinator:
mary.jeffreys@metrodenver.org

Co-Chairs:

Linda Murphy, Director, Workforce Board of Metro Denver

Judy Emery, Director, Colorado WIN Partners