AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS CONSORTIUM OF CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND

THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2014

The Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area is comprised of Pulaski (excluding the City of Little Rock), Saline, Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe and Prairie Counties as designated by the Governor of the State of Arkansas. The Chief Elected Officials (CEOs) of these designated Counties are responsible for the implementation of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 and Arkansas Act 907 of 2015 within the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area.

The CEOs, in accordance with criteria established by the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, section 107(b), in a Workforce Development Area shall enter into a CEO Partnership Agreement with the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board as required by Arkansas Code §15-4-3709(g)(2) and certified by the Governor of the State of Arkansas. The Partnership Agreement shall be signed by the designated CEO and Board Chair. The CEOs have designated the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board (CAWDB) as the grant recipient and fiscal agent/administrative entity. The CEOs and the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board share a vested interest in assuring that workforce development decisions will be made transparently and with the best interest of area employers and jobseekers.

The CEOs shall:

- 1. Appoint a CEO Chairman to act on behalf of all Central Arkansas CEOs'
- 2. Work with the Governor to appoint and certify the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board.
- 3. Revoke the appointment of the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board members if necessary.
- 4. Act directly as the grant recipient and fiscal agent or designate an alternate entity to act as grant recipient and fiscal agent on their behalf.
- 5. Ensure the Board complies with all Federal and State WIOA requirements, including applicable Federal uniform administrative requirements and cost principles.
- 6. Assume ultimate responsibility for any misuse of grant funds and/or disallowed costs.
- 7. Approve the annual Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board budget
- 8. Approve the Memorandum of understanding required to be negotiated with the partners.

- 9. Establish by-laws, consistent with State policy for CAWDB membership, that at a minimum address:
 - (1) The nomination process used by the CEO to select the CAWDB chair and members;
 - (2) The term limitations and how the term appointments will be staggered to ensure only a portion of membership expire in a given year;
 - (3) The process to notify the CEO of a CAWDB member vacancy to ensure a prompt nominee;
 - (4) The proxy and alternative designee process that will be used when a CAWDB member is unable to attend a meeting and assigns a designee as per the requirements at § 679.110(d)(4);
 - (5) The use of technology, such as phone and Web-based meetings, that will be used to promote CAWDB member participation;
 - (6) The process to ensure CAWDB members actively participate in convening the workforce development system's stakeholders, brokering relationships with a diverse range of employers, and leveraging support for workforce development activities; and
 - (7) A description of any other conditions governing appointment or membership on the Local WDB as deemed appropriate by the CEO.

The Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board shall:

- 1. Develop strategies for using technology to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of the local workforce development system for employers, workers, and job seekers.
- 2. Solicit and accept grants and donations from sources other than federal funds made available under WIOA assuming it has organized itself to do so.
- 3. Select eligible providers of youth activities by awarding grants or contracts on a competitive basis.
- 4. Identify eligible providers of training services for adults and dislocated workers, including performance and cost information.
- 5. Assist the Governor in developing a statewide employment statistics system.
- 6. Coordinate workforce development activities with local economic development strategies and develop employer linkages with workforce development activities.
- 7. Promote the participation the participation of local private sector employers through the statewide workforce development system.
- 8. Implement the regional planning responsibilities required by the State in accordance with

WIOA of 2014.

- 9. Conduct business in an open manner as required by WIOA section 107(e), by making available to the public on a regular basis through open meetings, information about the activities of the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board.
- 10. Assess, on an annual basis the physical and programmatic accessibility of all one-stop centers in the local area I accordance with WIOA sec. 188, if applicable, and applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 net seq.).
- 11. Certifications of One-Stop Centers in accordance with 20 CFR §678.800
- 12. Lead efforts in the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area to identify and promote proven and promising strategies and initiatives for meeting the needs of employers, workers, job seekers, and identify and disseminate information on proven promising practices carried out in other local areas for meeting such needs
- 13. Any other activities as required by the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act, Section 107(d) or by the Governor.

In partnership with the Chief Elected Officials, the Local Workforce Development Board shall:

- 1. Develop a vision and goals for the local workforce development system that are aligned both the economic development mission (s) for the local area and AWDB's goals.
- 2. Develop policies for the local workforce development area.
- 3. Develop and submit to the Governor a local workforce development strategic plan that meets the requirements in Section 108 of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act.
- 4. Designate or certify one-stop (s) and locations and shall terminate for cause the eligibility of one-stop operators.
- 5. Selection of training providers
- 6. Approve the local one-stop operation budget.
- 7. Conduct program oversight.
- 8. Negotiate an agreement on local performance accountability measures with the Governor of the State of Arkansas.
- 9. Approve the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board Four-Year Plan, Regional Plan, and modifications as required under WIOA and State policy and practice.

- 10. Negotiate with required partners for funding the infrastructure costs of one-stop centers in the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Area in accordance with §678.715 and will notify the Governor if they fail to reach the agreement with the required partners.
- 11. Develop a budget for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the Local Board. The Chief elected official must approve the budget.
- 12. Any other activities as required by the Arkansas Workforce Innovation Act §15-4-3711, or by the Governor.

The Chairman of the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board shall ensure the Consortium of Chief Elected Officials are informed on a timely basis concerning all decisions and/or recommendations on the aforementioned co-duties and responsibilities in order to obtain ratification of such actions prior to implementation.

The Chief Elected Officials and the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board hereby assure and certify they will comply with all provisions in the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act of 2014, Arkansas Act 907 of 2015, and the regulations, policies and directives promulgated by the Arkansas State Workforce Development Board.

The Chief Elected Officials and the Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board are hereby bound under the provision of this agreement by affixing the signature of the duly authorized representative of the respective parties.

Terms of Agreement:

This Agreement shall be effective from the date of signature and shall expire upon termination of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, dissolution of the Workforce Development Area, or future action taken by the CEOs and Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board to establish a new agreement.

ASSURANCES

Title 29 - Labor, Subtitle A - Office of the Secretary of Labor, Part 38

Implementation of the Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity Provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Subpart B - Recordkeeping and Other Affirmative Obligations of Recipients Assurances

- § 38.25 A grant applicant's obligation to provide a written assurance.
 - (a) Grant applicant's obligation to provide a written assurance.
 - (1) Each application for financial assistance, under Title I of WIOA, as defined in §

38.4, must include the following assurance:

- (i) As a condition to the award of financial assistance from the Department of Labor under Title I of WIOA, the grant applicant assures that it has the ability to comply with the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity provisions of the following laws and will remain in compliance for the duration of the award of federal financial assistance:
 - (A) Section 188 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which prohibits discrimination against all individuals in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, or political affiliation or belief, or against beneficiaries on the basis of either citizenship status or participation in any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity;
 - (B) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the bases of race, color and national origin.
 - (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities.
 - (D) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; and
 - (E) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs.

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ARS: 1-800-285-1131

Chair, Consortium of Chief Elected Officials

Chair, Central Arkansas Workforce Development Board

Date

Date