

GUIDANCE FOR SELECTING ONE-STOP OPERATORS

One-Stop operators are responsible for administering the One-Stop centers of the Arkansas Career Development Network. Their roles may range from simply coordinating service providers in the center to being the primary provider of services at the center. The role is determined by the local board. In areas where there is more than one comprehensive One-Stop center, there may be separate operators for each center or one operator for multiple centers. The operator may be selected by the local board through a competitive process, or the local workforce investment board (LWIB) may designate a consortium that includes three or more required One-Stop partners as an operator. The LWIB itself may not serve as a One-Stop operator except with the consent of the chief elected official(s) of the local workforce investment area and the Governor.

Who is the One-Stop operator? The One-Stop operator is the entity selected by the local board that performs the role agreed to by the local board. The agreement between the local board and the One-Stop operator must specify the operator's role. That role may range between simply coordinating service providers within the center to being the primary provider of services within the center. (WIA sec. 121(d).)

The types of entities that may be selected to be the One-Stop operator include:

- A postsecondary educational institution
- An Employment Service agency established under the Wagner-Peyser Act on behalf of the local office of the agency
- A private, nonprofit organization (including a community-based organization)
- A private for-profit entity
- A government agency
- Another interested organization or entity

One-Stop operators may be a single entity or a consortium of entities and may operate one or more One-Stop centers. In addition, there may be more than one One-Stop operator in a local area.

How is the One-Stop operator selected? The local workforce investment board, with the agreement of the chief elected official(s), must designate and certify One-Stop operators in the local workforce investment area. The One-Stop operator must be designated as follows:

- Through a competitive process, or
- Under an agreement between the local board and a consortium of entities that includes at least three or more of the required One-Stop partners identified at WIA Section 121(d).

Under what limited conditions may the Local Board be designated or certified as the One-Stop operator? The local board may be designated or certified as the One-Stop operator only with the agreement of the chief elected official(s) and the Governor. The designation or certification must be made publicly, in accordance with the requirements of the "sunshine provision" in WIA section 117(e), and must be reviewed whenever the biennial certification of the local board is made under 20 CFR 663.300(a). (WIA sec. 117(f)(2).)