



CareerSource Okaloosa Walton
Business Competitiveness Committee

February 16, 2023 * 9:00 a.m.

409 Racetrack Rd NE, Fort Walton Beach

Michelle Crocker	Wyndy Crozier	Jon Williams
Nathan Sparks	April Branscome	Al Smith
David Welch	Cathy Starkey	Alan Baggett
CSOW Staff: Kelly Jordan	Will Miles	Emmy Epperson

Michelle Crocker, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the meeting on August 18, 2022. Ms. Crocker requested a motion to approve the minutes. Nathan Sparks made the motion and was seconded by Al Smith; all in favor. The motion was passed unanimously.

Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Action Item

Will Miles shared that two Providers are requesting to add training programs to Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL). He informed the Committee that all the programs for both colleges met the requirements to be added to the ETPL.

First, Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) requests adding two Commercial Driving License courses.

- Class A CDL
- Class B CDL

NWFSC will conduct CDL Driving programs in partnership with FleetForce at their Niceville and DeFuniak Springs campuses. NWFSC currently has a Class A CDL course on the ETPL. The **Class A** program requested is a new course and will replace the current one.

MOTION: To approve the two CDL courses NWFSC requests to add to the ETPL.

A motion by April Branscome, seconded by Caralee Gibson, to approve NWFSC’s additional program for the RDOL 2022-23.

All Ayes.

The second Provider is Fortis Institute, with a campus in Pensacola, Florida. Fortis is a previously approved Provider that did not request renewal in June 2022. The training provider is now

requesting renewal of the Continued Eligibility Application and requesting to add five programs to the ETPL.

- Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (RN)
- Dental Assisting
- Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC)
- Medical Assisting
- Practical Nursing (LPN)

MOTION: To approve Fortis as a Continued Eligibility Training Provider AND to approve the five programs they request to add to the ETPL.

A motion by Wyndy Crozier, seconded by Alan Baggett to approve Fortis Institute and the training programs for the RDOL 2022-23. All Ayes.

Kelly Jordan informed the Committee that CareerSource Okaloosa Walton’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funded Adult / Dislocated Worker and Get There Faster programs provided training opportunities for 87 participants at the midpoint of PY2022 (July 1, 2022 – December 31). These opportunities included 83 Individual Training Account (ITA) Scholarships, 3 On The Job (OJT) Training, and 1 Apprenticeship.

While Emerald Coast Technical College, Okaloosa Technical College, and Northwest Florida State College continue to account for most WIOA Adult funding, Get There Faster enrollment leans toward the short-term, online IT programs offered through Applied Technology Academy. In addition, Okaloosa Technical College has seen a significant number of Get There Faster enrollees in the more traditional programs such as carpentry, culinary arts, and building trades.

An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

*This project is supported by the **Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor** as part of awards totaling **\$599,972** with 0% financing from non-governmental sources.*