



## **IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY SECTORS POLICY**

EDD Revision Date: N/A

WDB Review Date: 3/22/07; 12/17/15, 12/15/16, 12/19/24

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **Purpose:**

This document establishes the Workforce Development Board of Madera County's policy on the identification, and strategies for the use of, local and regional priority industries and sectors.

#### **Policy:**

Section 107(d) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) outlines the required functions of the local Workforce Development Board. These functions include, but are not limited to, workforce research and economic analysis, employer engagement, and the use of proven and promising practices to identify and promote strategies and initiatives for meeting the needs of employers. The implementation of these functions is further defined in Chapter 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Section 679.370(e) which states that the local Board will lead efforts to engage with a diverse range of employers in order to develop and implement strategies for meeting the employment and skill needs of workers and employers (such as the establishment of industry and sector partnerships) that expand employment and career advancement opportunities in in-demand industry sectors or occupations.

To facilitate such efforts, the Workforce Development Board of Madera County has identified priority industry sectors. Five sectors were identified through a regional economic analysis that included the San Joaquin Valley workforce areas from San Joaquin County in the north to Kern/Inyo/Mono counties in the south, and were adopted by the Central California Workforce Collaborative in 2007, in alignment with the efforts of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The sectors identified were:

- Agri-Business, including Food Processing, Ag Technology, and Bio Technology
- Manufacturing, including Advanced Manufacturing
- Supply Chain Management, Logistics, and Transportation
- Health Care and Medical
- Renewable Energy

In June of 2014, based on an analysis of local labor market information completed by staff, the Workforce Development Board of Madera County added one additional priority sector for the local area:

- Hospitality and Tourism, including Retail Trade

The Board will review the priority sectors periodically and may make changes based on subsequent economic analyses completed for the area or region. Additionally, the Board may designate other sectors as areas of priority based on indicators that the sector has the potential for sustained growth and/or occupational demand in the local or regional labor market. Investments in training, the identification of career ladder opportunities, and the development of industry sectors or partnerships, will be focused on the sectors identified as areas of priority for the Board. It is also the preference of the Board that Workforce Development Board membership and composition align with the priority sectors identified and represent, to the best of its ability, the geographical landscape of Madera County.

**INQUIRIES:**

If you have questions, please contact the Executive Director or designee at (559) 662-4500.