

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that individuals or representatives of organizations entrusted with public funds will not personally or professionally benefit from the award or expenditure of such funds. This policy governs the activities of the Lane Workforce Partnership board members, council members, task force and committee members (together “LWP Members”).

It is expected that conflicts of interest will arise, and this policy is intended to provide a framework that will allow the work of LWP to be achieved without the fact of or the appearance of impropriety.

This policy is intended to assure compliance with WIOA 2 CFR §200.112.

A. Attestations

LWP Members shall avoid conflict of interest, real or apparent, by observing the following requirements:

Each LWP Member, and any LWP Member applicant, shall sign an Attestation denoting that the Conflict of Interest Policy has been read, understood, and that the individual pledges to conduct him/herself in accordance with such these policies and procedures. Each LWP Member must also provide a disclosure of potential conflicts created by his or her position(s) in relationship to LWP.

B. Misuse of Information

No LWP Member shall use his or her position, or the knowledge obtained from his or her position, in such a manner that conflicts with the interest of LWP or results in personal gain to the LWP Member, or a third party that the LWP Member is employed by, has a fiduciary relationship with, or to whom the LWP Member provides services, where that information is not available to the public at large, nor divulge such information in advance of the time presented for its authorized release.

C. Conflicts of Interest

The following are deemed conflicts of interest that create a duty of the LWP Member to fully disclose such interest immediately:

1. He or she has a significant personal financial interest in a proposed transaction involving LWP.
2. He or she is employed by, or is Trustee, Director, or Officer of any individual, organization or entity that shall have a financial interest in a proposed transaction involving LWP.
3. He or she represents a third party either through personal, professional, or confidential relationship, and such party has a financial interest in a proposed transaction involving LWP.

4. No LWP Member shall solicit or accept gratuities or favors from suppliers or potential suppliers, including subcontractors.
5. No LWP Member shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a procurement supported by funds under LWP's jurisdiction where, to the individual's knowledge, any of the following has a financial or substantial interest in any organization which may be considered for an award:
 - a. the officer, employee, agent or LWP Member;
 - b. any Member of his or her immediate family;
 - c. his or her partner, or;
 - d. a person or organization which employs, or is about to employ, any of the above.

D. Acknowledging a Conflict

In the event that a LWP Member has an interest, directly or indirectly, in a business entity that would have a direct monetary effect due to any official action taken by LWP, the LWP Member shall declare, prior to any discussion on the matter of interest, the nature and extent of the interest and shall not voluntarily discuss the proposed LWP action. The LWP Member must excuse him/herself prior to the decision-making portion of the discussion and must refrain from casting any vote on the matter in question. The decision-making process starts once a motion is made and seconded. This limitation on discussion shall not prohibit the LWP Member from providing factual information in response to direct questions concerning the matter from other LWP Members. The disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting in which the disclosure occurred. In the case of review of proposals, the affected Member may only participate in any presentation, discussion, or response to questions regarding the proposal to the extent that competing bidders are afforded the same opportunity.

E. Violation of Conflict of Interest Policy

If an award of funding is made with a LWP Member violating the requirements of this procedure, the LWP Board of Directors is empowered to immediately suspend the obligation; the suspension subject to review at the next regular or special meeting of the LWP Board of Directors. The balance of the Board of Directors, excluding any LWP Member with potential conflict, will then determine what final corrective actions are necessary; actions that could include removal of a LWP Member, suspension of the obligation, termination of the obligation, or civil action to recover any monetary damages.

F. Gifts, Favors, and Gratuities

No LWP Member shall solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to subcontracts. This prohibition shall not apply to unsolicited trivial benefits, not to exceed a value of fifty dollars (\$50) that are incidental to personal, professional, or business contacts and that do not involve a substantial risk of undermining official impartiality.