

IGNITE. INNOVATE. IMPACT.

NAWB: THE FORUM

MARCH 23-26, 2026 • LAS VEGAS

Monday, March 23

10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Pre-Conference Sessions

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Board Chairs + Executive
Directors Session**

(Members Only, Registration Required)

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Newcomers Session

6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

Welcome Reception

Tuesday, March 24

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Opening General Session:
Together. Forward. Change

Welcome Remarks from NAWB's Board Chair

Updates from the CEO

Opening Plenary

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

9:15 AM – 9:50 AM

10:00 AM – 10:20 AM

Networking Break

Advocacy 101: Building your Advocacy Toolbox

Business Services Coordinator (A USDOL Registered Apprenticeship)

From Convening to Conversions: Turning Employer Engagement into Sustainable Sector Pipeline

The Leadership Skills that Matter Now: A Strategic Conversions for Workforce Boards

Fueling the Future: Sustaining Apprenticeship Momentum

Beyond the Buzz: Is AI the Next Industrial Revolution or a Bubble that's About to Burst?

Meeting Big Needs with Big Solutions: Pierce County Labor and Machinists Institute Are Investing in Childcare for Trades Workers & Apprenticeship Momentum

What AI ISN'T: Rethinking ChatGPT, Privacy, and Policy in Workforce Development

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Networking Lunch

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

General Session II

2:15 PM - 3:00 PM

Networking Break

Concurrent Sessions

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Advocacy 201: You Don't Have to be in
Washington, D.C. to Advocate

Influence Meets Industry: Making Registered
Apprenticeship a Household Name

Full Throttle Leadership: The Ultimate K.P.I to
Ignite Elite Performance

The Current State of AI in Workforce Development: The
Good, The Bad, and What's Next

Creating a Culture of Performance: What EKCEP's
Culture Journey Can Teach Us About
Creating More Engagement Among Employees,
Partners, Elected Officials and
Communities

Expanding Access to Logistics Training: Leveraging Public and Private Funding

Bridging the Gap: Advancing Reentry Success and Workforce Pathways through Collaborative Partnerships.

Connecting the Dots: Integrating Apprenticeships with Workforce Systems + Plans for the City of LA's Apprenticeship Hub

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

Networking Break

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Hosted Receptions
(invite-only)

Wednesday, March 25

7:45 AM – 9:00 AM

**Regional Convenings
and Breakfast**

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

Networking Break

9:15 AM – 11:00 AM

**General Session III:
Federal Policy Update**

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Networking Break

**Concurrent Sessions
11:15 AM – 12:30 PM**

Shift Your Marketing and Own Your Brand

Beyond Efficiency: How AI is Freeing Staff to Do
What Matters Most

Human at the Center: Building Trust and Talent
Through Competency-Based Models in the Age
of AI

Ignite Success: The Denver Model for Integrated
Funding and a “No Wrong Door” Ecosystem

Veteran Friendly to Veteran Ready
Communities

Beyond the Buzzwords: What It Really Takes to Align Education, Workforce, and Community

Advocacy 301: A Deeper Dive Into Legislation That Could Impact the Public Workforce System

Leveraging Industry Partnerships to Tool Up Tomorrow's Workforce

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Lunch in NAWBTown

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

General Session IV

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Newcomers Break

Concurrent Sessions

3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Apprenticeship is a National Priority: Now What?

Leadership in a Cup of Coffee: How Rural Boards Build Trust, Partnerships, and People

Building a Tech-Enabled Partnership Model for WIOA Service Delivery: A Practical Blueprint for Workforce Boards

Moving Beyond Panic to Progress in AI and Workforce

Designing Resilient Funding Systems: A Hands-On Simulation for Joint Workforce Strategies

Policy Shift, System Response: Preparing Workforce Programs for Medicaid Work Requirements

Work Matters: Creating a talent pipeline through probation, workforce, and trades alignment

Apprenticeship Beyond the Trades: Tackling Mental Health and Youth Workforce Challenges

4:45 PM – 6:00 PM **Networking Break in NAWBTown**



Thursday, March 26

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Breakfast

Concurrent Sessions
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Beyond the Blueprint: Co-Creating Customized Apprenticeships with Industry to Ignite the Workforce of Tomorrow

Building Winning Board and Contractor Relationships!

Smarter Workflows, Stronger Results: Practical AI for Workforce Teams

The North Central Texas Accelerator Session Model: Driving Workforce, Education and Economic Development Outcomes from Insight to Action

Bold Collaborations, Bold Outcomes: Rethinking Adult Education and Workforce Board Partnerships

In Their Shoes: A Hands-on Look at Barriers Facing Today's Workforce

Stronger Together – How to Mobilize Your State Association of Local Boards

From Pre-Apprentice to Apprentice: Building a Scalable Pipeline in the Central Valley

From Sponsor to Catalyst: Igniting Apprenticeship Leadership Across Workforce Boards of Every Size - Scaling Apprenticeship Innovation from Vision to Action – A 90-day Blueprint to Sponsorship

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Networking Break

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

General Session V:
IGNITE. INNOVATE.IMPACT
... on to New York!