

# IGNITE. INNOVATE. IMPACT.

**NAWB: THE FORUM**

**MARCH 23-26, 2026 + LAS VEGAS**

**Monday, March 23**

**9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Pre-Conference Sessions**

**Concurrent Sessions**  
**9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

Mastering the Mega Trends: Shaping the Next  
Generation of Talent

Are You Ready? Board Contingency Planning

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## Turning Data into Action: Insights that Drive Workforce Board Impact

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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**

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

**Welcome Remarks from NAWB's Board Chair**

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

**Updates from the CEO**

9:15 AM – 9:50 AM

**Opening Plenary**

10:00 AM – 10:20 AM

### **Networking Break**

## Advocacy 101: Building your Advocacy Toolbox

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## Business Services Coordinator (A USDOL Registered Apprenticeship)

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

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

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## Fueling the Future: Sustaining Apprenticeship Momentum

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

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

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

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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

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Influence Meets Industry: Making Registered  
Apprenticeship a Household Name

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

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

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

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Expanding Access to Logistics Training:  
Leveraging Public and Private Funding

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

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

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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

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

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

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

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Veteran Friendly to Veteran Ready  
Communities

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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

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

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

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

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

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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

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Building Winning Board and Contractor Relationships!

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Smarter Workflows, Stronger Results: Practical AI for  
Workforce Teams

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

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

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

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

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

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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

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10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

**Networking Break**

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

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