

*The National Academies of*  
**SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE**

**MEETING REGIONAL STEMM WORKFORCE NEEDS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19:  
A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP SERIES**

**Agenda for Workshop #4: Riverside, California**

Thursday, October 22, 2020

10:00 AM – 1:15PM Pacific Time

Webcast available at <https://bit.ly/2FAL0wm>

**Workshop Objectives:**

*This workshop will focus on creating equity within the workforce pipeline and connecting it to the Green Economy and the High Tech, High Growth jobs of tomorrow. Moreover, we will highlight the importance of the region's logistics industry and its valuable role in addressing the problems presented to the State and Local workforce in the Post-COVID labor market. In addition, we will identify training opportunities to address challenges and build a more resilient workforce.*

- *Identify challenges presented to the workforce on a regional, state, and local level Post COVID.*
- *Identify upskilling and reskilling opportunities at local universities and community colleges to connect the transitioning workforce into the Green Economy and High Tech, High Demand careers.*

**10:00 - 10:10 AM Welcome and workshop overview**

*Planning committee members welcome attendees and provide background on the workshop series*

- Mr. Van Freeman, Director for Future Workforce Development and Strategy, Aerospace Industries Association
- Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges

**10:10 - 10:30 AM Riverside data**

*Data provided to frame the workshop discussions, including economic, labor force, educational attainment, and demographic data for the Riverside region*

- Dr. Stuart Andreason, Director of the Center for Workforce and Economic Opportunity at Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

**10:30 - 11:15 AM Panel 1: Greater Riverside economic outlook prior to and during COVID**

*In this session, panelists will discuss pre-COVID investments in workforce training programs and the impact of the pandemic on their workforce alignment and learner access.*

- Dr. Kim Wilcox, Chancellor, University of California, Riverside
- Ms. Toni Symonds, Chief Consultant to the Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy, California State Assembly
- Dr. Wolde-Ab Isaac, Chancellor, Riverside Community College District
- Moderator: Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges

**11:15 AM - 11:30 AM Break**

**11:30 AM - 12:15 PM Panel 2: Regional Ecosystems and Opportunities**

*This panel will focus on emerging workforce training programs for the Riverside region, including apprenticeships and credentialing programs.*

- Dr. Noel Hacegaba, Deputy Executive Director, Port of Long Beach
- Ms. Leslie Trainor, Deputy Director of Workforce Development, County of Riverside
- Mr. Chris Cagle, Regional Affairs Manager, South Bay Workforce Investment Board
- Professor Rex Beck, Business Administration, Norco College
- Moderator: Mr. Sid Voorakkara, Senior Vice President, Strategies 360

**12:15 PM - 1:00 PM Panel 3: Higher Education's Role in Economic Mobility**

*This panel will explore current and future efforts by higher education institutions to support local workforce development, with particular attention to increasing the diversity of the STEMM workforce pipeline and tech transfer and entrepreneurship growth and expansion*

- Dr. Jeannie Kim, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services, Riverside Community College District
- Dr. Rodolfo Torres, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, University of California, Riverside
- Dr. Byron Ford, Associate Dean, Pre-Clerkship Medical Education, University of California-Riverside School of Medicine
- Moderator: Mr. Van Freeman, Director for Future Workforce Development and Strategy, Aerospace Industries Association

**1:00 – 1:15PM Workshop Summary – Policy Implications**

*In this closing session, discussants will summarize the lessons learned from the day's discussions, with an eye to highlighting key policy implications for the workforce recovery in Riverside and in the nation.*

- Dr. Wolde-Ab Isaac, Chancellor, Riverside Community College District

## **MEETING REGIONAL STEMM WORKFORCE NEEDS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19: A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP SERIES**

### **Statement of Task**

A committee will plan and host a series of six virtual workshops to identify immediate and near-term regional science, technology, engineering, math, and medical (STEMM) workforce needs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 has impacted workforce demand that includes, but is not limited to, data analytics for logistics and operations, health care, manufacturing, agriculture, and IT infrastructure. The workshops will highlight promising practices that 2-year and 4-year higher education institutions, as well as non-academic training and certification programs, can utilize to respond urgently and appropriately to those needs. In this context, effectiveness of the practices will be judged, in part, on the number of learners who can be reached, especially in the skilled technical workforce. A series of five regionally-specific virtual sessions will address the following questions:

- How have the current and near term regional STEMM labor market needs changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the needs for the skilled technical workforce (e.g., in IT and computing fields, health tech sectors, manufacturing)?
- To what extent can a regional profile be created that links STEMM educational and training resources with COVID-19 impacted workforce needs, including retraining and certification of professionals?
- What practices and policies can local higher education institutions and workforce training organizations adopt to respond to local industry STEMM workforce needs, both individually and as part of regional coalitions? Which effective practices and policies are replicable and scalable? What barriers, if any, exist that inhibit these programs from meeting COVID-19 shifts in regional STEMM workforce needs?
- How can workforce training and education systems address the significant and urgent needs of the underrepresented minority population, which has been especially impacted by the effects of COVID-19? Can the recent events related to the death of George Floyd raise awareness of the disenfranchisement of the nation's underrepresented minority populations that result from institutionalized racism, and therefore increase focus on the particular needs of those populations?
- What actions are needed to assist local higher education institutions, training and certification programs, industry, and policy makers at the local, state, and federal levels in fostering improved linkages between education and training resources and STEMM workforce needs at the regional level as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Following the five regional sessions, the Committee will convene a concluding virtual workshop, and a designated rapporteur will prepare a proceedings of the workshop series.