

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 3/20/02

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

Meeting Notes

SUBJECT: Workforce Excellence Network (WEN) Application

PROPOSED MOTION(S): N/A

DISCUSSION: On December 27, 2001 PITD submitted an application for the 2001 Criteria for Workforce Excellence Network (WEN) Select/Elite Membership. The Workforce Excellence Network is sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration of the Department of Labor, and was created as a resource to help workforce development organizations thrive and excel in today's dynamic workforce environment. WEN's focus is to promote continuous improvement and recognize excellence throughout our nation's workforce system with the goal of improving outcomes and customer satisfaction for the millions of individuals and employers who access the system each year. WEN uses the Malcolm Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence as the foundation for a national strategy for promoting continuous improvement. The Baldrige Criteria offers a performance excellence process that is grounded in a business concept based on core values and practices widely accepted as the standard for defining performance excellence in public and private organizations.

Membership in the Network is open to local, state and national organizations engaged in workforce development activities. Being a member of WEN provides access to valuable workforce development resources and opportunity to apply for a national level Performance Excellence Award. There are three different levels of membership that WEN has developed to assist in the criteria validation process of high performing workforce development entities. Membership levels are Associate, Select and Elite. PITD is currently an Associate member signifying that as an organization we are committed to the principles of the Malcolm Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence. Submitting this application is the progressive next step in our performance excellence journey. The benefits of submitting the Select level membership application include:

- **Application process serves as a tool for organizational assessment and improvement that will enhance ability to meet customer and stakeholder expectations.**
- **Receive a customized feedback report written by a team of leading workforce development and performance excellence experts detailing organization strengths and key opportunities for improvement.**
- **Widely acclaimed recognition as a high performing workforce development organization.**
- **Use of the Workforce Excellence logo and marketing opportunities.**
- **Consideration for Elite Membership and a \$10,000 grant.**

If the evaluation score given to our written application is high enough then PITD will be eligible for a site visit from a team of WEN examiners.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A