## **About Us**

The Southwest Minnesota

Workforce Development Board is one of Minnesota's 16 local workforce boards designated under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.

The Board is comprised of business, education, government, economic development, and community stakeholders. The board is dedicated to providing a diverse and quality workforce that best meets the needs and challenges of the 14 county area of Southwest Minnesota.

These counties include Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine.

The Southwest Minnesota Workforce Development Board is a leader in CareerForce, Minnesota's unified workforce system and guides the design of local workforce development including oversight of CareerForce locations in Marshall, Montevideo and Worthington.

The Board priorities include:

- addressing the shortage of skilled workers through career pathways;
- increasing service levels and outcomes for individuals experiencing employment disparities;
- expanding partnerships with local school districts to increase career awareness, career counseling and work-based learning opportunities for students and parents; and
- increasing employer engagement through sector-based partnerships.

The CareerForce goal is to deliver prosperous outcomes for:

Employers
Career seekers
Communities
Minnesota