



# Georgia's Certified Work Ready Community Initiative

Notification of Intent to Participate  
April 2009



The purpose of Georgia's **Certified Work Ready Community** initiative is to provide counties with a framework to validate that they have a skilled workforce ready to fill current and future jobs. The *Notification of Intent to Participate* is how counties begin the process of becoming a **Certified Work Ready Community**. A county that submits this notification to the Governor's Office of Workforce Development is declaring that there is a commitment from county leadership and partners to proceed in the certification process.

To obtain additional information, counties are encouraged to visit [www.gaworkready.org](http://www.gaworkready.org) prior to submitting this notification.

## Participant Information

Counties are encouraged to build teams with participation from various groups including local workforce investment boards, economic development, development authorities, businesses, government, high school graduation coaches, non-profit and community based organizations. The list below is the minimum team member participation expected by each county. A letter of commitment to the Certified Work Ready Community effort needs to be attached from every team member listed below. It is suggested that counties select a Team Leader who is committed to obtaining the goals and has the time available to ensure success. It is anticipated that county teams will meet as necessary in person or by conference call with the leadership below or their representatives in order to ensure county goals are obtained in the desired timeframe.

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Contact Information of County Team Leader:

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of County Team Members - must include but not limited to:

County Commissioner Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor of County Seat: \_\_\_\_\_

President, Chamber of Commerce: \_\_\_\_\_

President, Board of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

President, Technical College: \_\_\_\_\_

Local WIB Chairman and SDA: \_\_\_\_\_

DCA Regional Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

GDEc Regional Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

GDOL Regional Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Local HS Graduation Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Criteria**

The county must complete the **Certified Work Ready Community** certification process in no more than 36 months from April 2009 for this *Notification of Intent to Participate* to remain active.

For the purposes of this *Notification of Intent to Participate* dated April 2009, county criteria to attain a **Certified Work Ready Community** status may be found at [www.gaworkready.org](http://www.gaworkready.org) under the communities tab.

Please insert your county's criteria data to become a **Certified Work Ready Community** in the table below.

Labor Market Group	Criteria to become Georgia Certified Work Ready Community (Based on County Size) S - (3%, 25%) M - (2%, 20%) L - (1%, 15%) XL - (.5%, 5%)	County Certificate # Goals	
Existing Workforce Private Sector			
Existing Workforce Local, State or Federal Government			
High School Graduates Entering Workforce			
GED			
Technical College Graduates			
Unemployed Adults			

The Georgia **Certified Work Ready Community** initiative has been active since January 2007. Since that date the Governor's Office of Workforce Development has been collecting Work Ready Certificate numbers for all Georgia counties. Applying counties have the option to either count their current Certificates earned in the county towards their goals and place themselves on a 24 month completion timeframe or start from zero and remain on the 36 month completion timeframe. Contact GOWD at [fmconnel@gov.state.ga.us](mailto:fmconnel@gov.state.ga.us) or 404-657-0361 for current Certificate counts.

Will county be counting Certificates earned in 2007 towards their CWRC certification goals, therefore, placing themselves on a 24 month completion timeframe.	Yes	No
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Counties must meet all assessment criteria and validate a county high school graduation rate (HSGR) of 70% along with demonstrating a commitment to increasing public HSGR to obtain **Certified Work Ready Community of Excellence** status. Counties with HSGR less than 70% may obtain a **Certified Work Ready Community** status at the end of three-year period if they have met all other goals and demonstrated a commitment to increasing their HSGR.

Demonstrated Commitment to Increasing Public High School Graduation Rate	MINIMUM PERCENT INCREASE COUNTY PUBLIC HSGR OVER THREE YEARS (Based on 2007 HSGR)		
Will county be validating a HSGR threshold of 70%**		Yes	No
How will you be calculating county 70% threshold HSGR?		<input type="checkbox"/> County Public HSGR <input type="checkbox"/> Combined County Public and Accredited Private HSGR	

## Signatory Authority of Intent to Participate

By signing this *Notification of Intent to Participate* I am certifying that our county is ready to proceed with the **Certified Work Ready Community** certification process.

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Signature – Chairman, County Commission

## Accelerated Work Ready Community Consideration Proposal

To be considered as one of the **Accelerated Work Ready Communities**, counties should be prepared to complete the certification process in no less than six and no more than 18 months as well as provide the following documentation:

Cover letter of commitment from the County Commission Chairperson

Proposal that includes:

- Letters of commitment from each team member
- A summary (no more than five pages) of the county's commitment to becoming a **Certified Work Ready Community** including outlining and addressing the following questions:
  - Why their county will be successful in meeting the goals of becoming a **Certified Work Ready Community of Excellence or a Certified Work Ready Community** in 6 to 18 months
  - How they will recruit individuals in the specified labor market groups and assist them in successfully obtaining a **Georgia Work Ready Certificate**
  - A cooperative strategy with the local school board and HS Graduation Coaches to increase their high school graduation rate to level designated in their county criteria
- Additional letters of support may be included in the Appendix

Proposals for Accelerated Work Ready Communities are due to the Governor's Office of Workforce Development by **COB June 10, 2009** by mail, fax or electronic transmittal.

## Submission

*Notification of Intent to Participate* forms will be accepted by the Governor's Office of Workforce Development from now through June 2009 for the current county data found on the Web site. Applications for Accelerated Certified Work Ready Community must be received by COB June 10, 2009.

Forms and/or proposals may be mailed, faxed or electronically transmitted to:

Fred R. McConnel, Work Ready Community Manager  
Governor's Office of Workforce Development  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive S.W.  
606 West Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Fax: 404-463-5043  
[fmccommel@gov.state.ga.us](mailto:fmccommel@gov.state.ga.us)