

## **Priority Populations Committee**

## Purpose:

The Priority Populations Committee ensures that the public workforce system is accessible to job seekers with severe barriers to employment. The committee advises on policies and strategies that ensure priority populations have equitable outcomes to pathways to work, wages and wealth. The committee is aligned with Pillar II of Maryland's 2024-2028 Sate Workforce Development Plan.

II. Advance Equity and Access: Ensure equitable access to quality training and employment opportunities for all Marylanders.

## Members:

Members of this committee will include the following and may include both GWDB members and non-members:

Representatives of Industry and Community-Based Organizations

Representatives of Department of Housing and Community Development

Representatives of Statewide Re-Entry Initiatives

Representative of Maryland Department of Juvenile Services

Representatives of Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees

Representatives of Maryland Division of Rehabilitative Services

## **Strategic Priorities:**

Examples aligned to strategic elements of the 2024-2028 Plan:

Apply an equity lens to address Maryland's labor force participation inequities and gaps by identifying barriers facing targeted populations and expanding services to address those barriers

Support employers in building their capacity to recruit, hire, retain, and upskill employees from diverse populations

Leveraging partnerships to increase awareness of workforce programs