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What are Policy Committees?

Through committee membership, NASWA members have a seat at the table to effectively influence policy development. NASWA committees help define policies on issues that are critical to state workforce agencies. These groups are active throughout the year and meet in-person three times annually in order to collaborate on key issues across the national workforce system.

How NASWA Members Can Join A Policy Committee:

It's easy! State workforce agency administrators should submit an email to naswa@naswa.org nominating an individual from their state for a specific committee. This can be done at any time. NASWA strives to have a representative from each state to participate in every policy committee.

Policy Committees:

Ø *Administration and Finance*

The mission of the Administration and Finance Committee is to

- refine UI administrative funding reform with the UI Committee as needed;
- analyze UI Trust Fund financing issues and strategies; and
- develop a polling mechanism to provide fast and more accurate information on how states are spending and obligating funds and complete the NASWA State Supplemental Funding Survey.

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Ø *Communications*

The mission of the Communications Committee is to

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- increase and enhance communications between NASWA and member states,
 - bring attention to and advocate for the work being undertaken on important workforce and unemployment insurance activities and policies nationally and in the states, and
 - leverage messaging at the state and national levels.

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Ø *Employment & Training*

The Employment and Training Committee is a vital asset for NASWA, providing state workforce administrators and senior staff a forum

- to share information and solutions with other states on emerging issues related to the major workforce development programs,
- to assist the NASWA Board with development of NASWA's legislative and other priorities, and
- to inform the efforts of Federal policymakers, researchers, and partners

The most frequently discussed grants are:

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA);
- Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Services;
- Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) for UI claimants';
- Apprenticeship;
- WIOA partner programs (Vocational Rehabilitation, Adult Basic Education, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, SNAP, Child Care, Medicaid);
- Trade Adjustment Assistance; and

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- Work Opportunity Tax Credit, Foreign Labor Certification, and services for veterans and other special populations.

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Ø *Equal Opportunity*

The Equal Opportunity Committee's mission is to

- provide a forum for state workforce agency equal opportunity officers to discuss current EO issues,
- develop recommendations on how the workforce system can best meet regulatory compliance of its programs under federal law and regulations, and
- advise their state agency administrators as appropriate.

The committee also serves as a critical line of communication between state equal opportunity staff and the US Department of Labor's Civil Rights Center.

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Ø *Technology*

The Technology Committee's mission is to provide strategic guidance to states to improve workforce development outcomes by leveraging information technology.

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Ø *Unemployment Insurance*

The mission of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Committee is to provide state input on

- unemployment insurance policies,
- performance requirements,
- administrative financing, and
- ways to strengthen the state-federal UI system.

The Committee strives for state consensus on issues and communicates policy proposals and concerns to the NASWA Board of Directors and the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Ø *Unemployment Insurance Subcommittee on Interstate Benefits*

NASWA's Unemployment Insurance (UI) Subcommittee work is vitally important to the UI Committee and to NASWA leadership. The Interstate Benefits (IB) Subcommittee is the overseeing body for

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- state UI agreements,
 - interstate benefits processes/procedures,
 - states' voice for the federal UI programs, and
 - states' voice for the combined wage claim program.

The mission of the IB system is to provide methods for the exchange of information among states and Canada to support Unemployment Compensation initial claims, benefit determinations, and workforce security objectives.

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Ø Veterans Affairs

The Veterans Affairs Committee currently has members from 50 states, Guam and the District of Columbia. The goals of the Committee are:

- improve the State Grants Process for the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) and Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) Programs;
- assist Governor's offices in promoting Veteran employment opportunities;

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- improve the ability of DVOPs, LVERs and workforce system staff to fulfill the Federal Contractor Job List (FCJL) requirements and objectives;
 - improve relationships with the National Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs);
 - improve the efficiency of training provided for the DVOP, LVER and state local workforce staff; and
 - share promising practices with states on the DVOP and LVER programs and services

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Ø *Workforce & Labor Market Information*

The Workforce & Labor Market Information (WLMI) Committee provides a forum for state Labor Market Information directors and other workforce agency staff to:

- discuss collecting, analyzing, and customizing workforce and labor market information to serve a broad range of programs and customers;
- share promising practices internally and with other NASWA stakeholders; and
- advise the NASWA Board of Directors and State Administrators on advocacy and policy matters

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