



# CEJA ILLINOIS

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act  
Workforce Programs

CEJA Ecosystem  
June 22, 2023

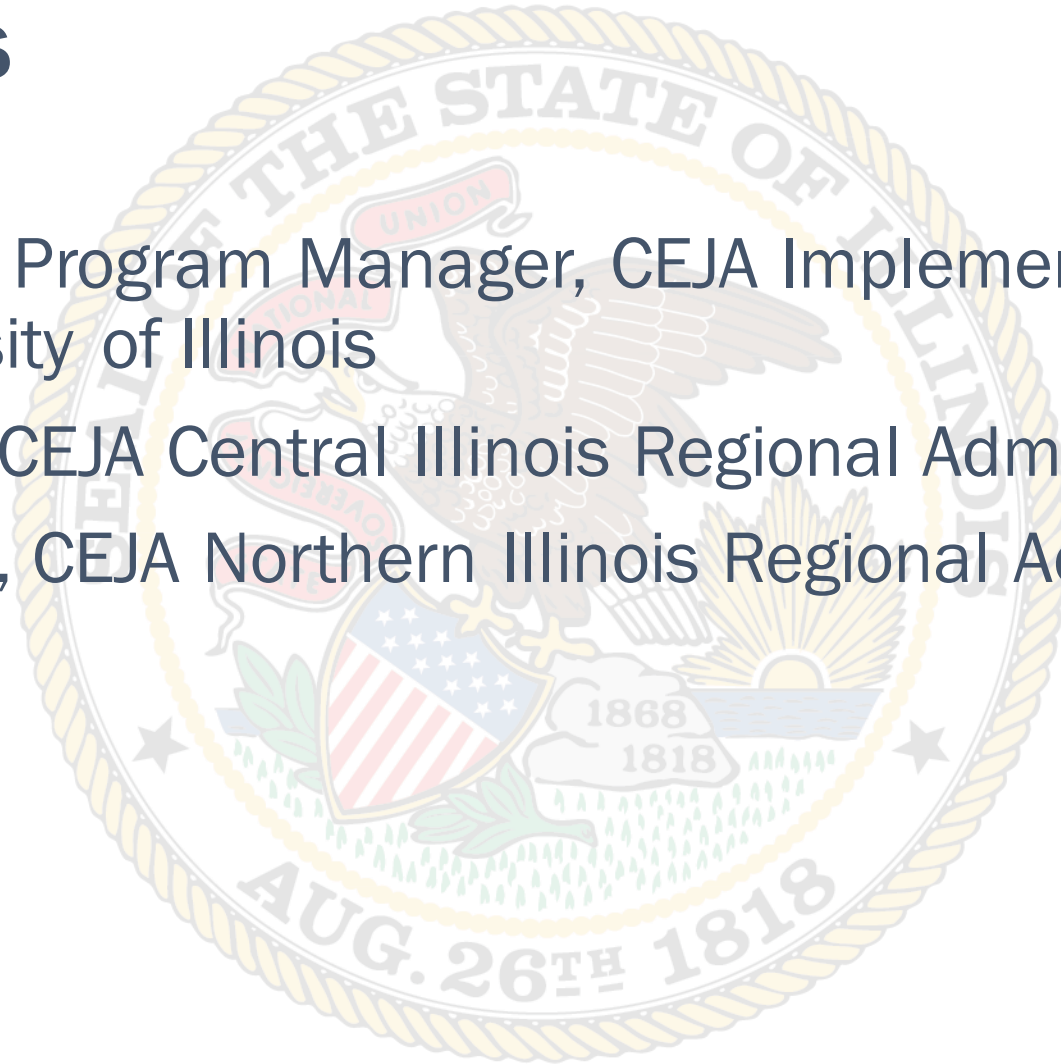


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# Presenters

- Linda Larsen, Program Manager, CEJA Implementation Team, University of Illinois
- Nate Keener, CEJA Central Illinois Regional Administrator, DCEO
- Larry Dawson, CEJA Northern Illinois Regional Administrator, DCEO





# CEJA ILLINOIS

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act  
Workforce Programs

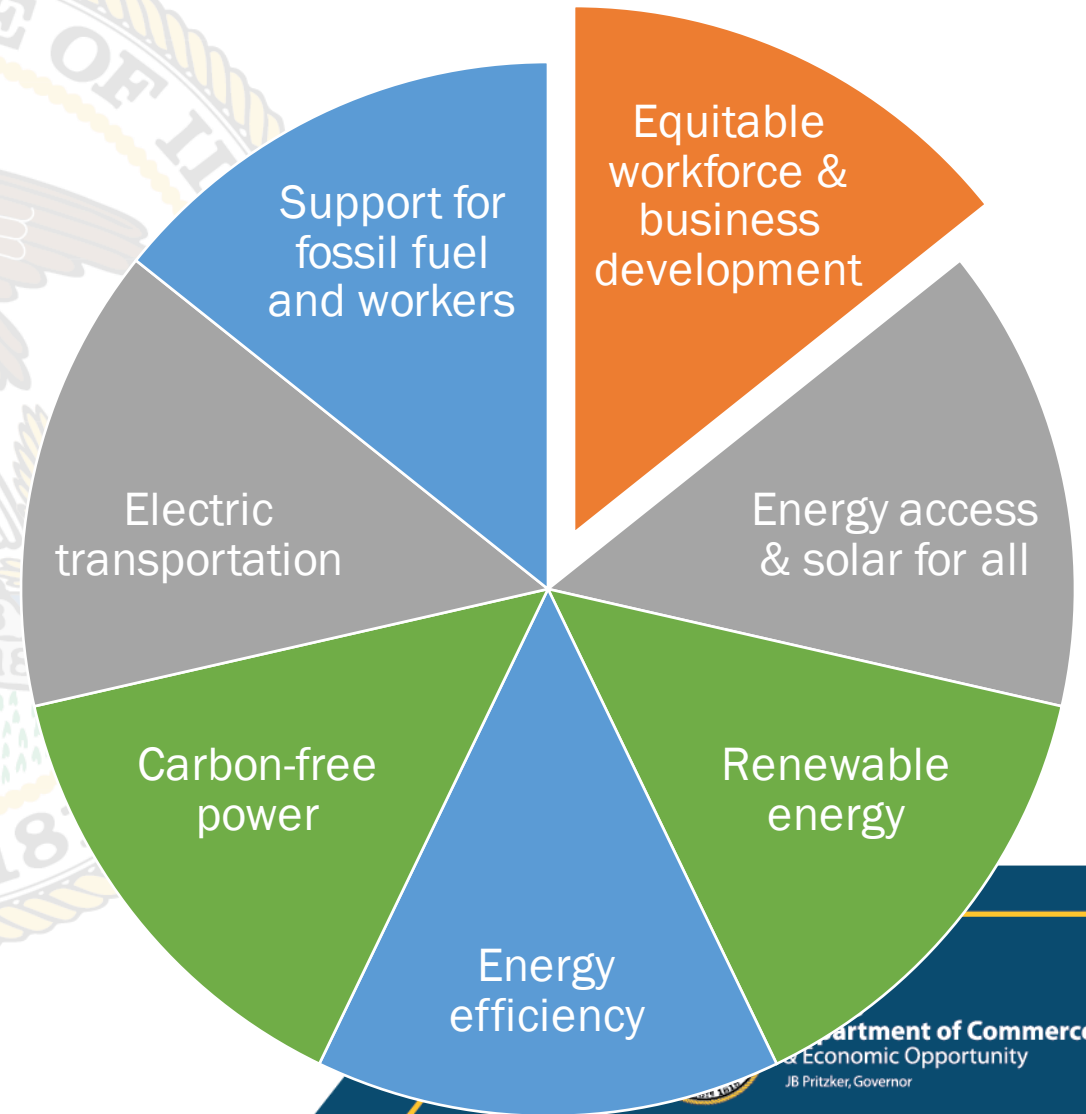
1. CEJA Ecosystem Overview
2. CEJA Interconnections
3. Prepare to Apply for Funding
4. Workforce Connections
5. Community Connections
6. Employer and industry connections
7. Upcoming events



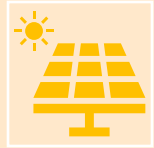
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# What is the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, or CEJA?

Comprehensive energy legislation that centers equity and puts Illinois on track to achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2050.



# A few of CEJA's Main Goals



Reach 40% renewable energy by 2030, 50% by 2040, 100% by 2050.



Achieve a carbon-free power grid by 2045, closing all fossil-fuel power plants.



Equitably grow the clean energy workforce to meet the demand for clean energy technologies and services.



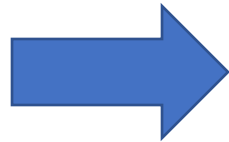
# CEJA equitable workforce development

Illinois is investing in clean energy sources, electric vehicles, and energy efficiency.



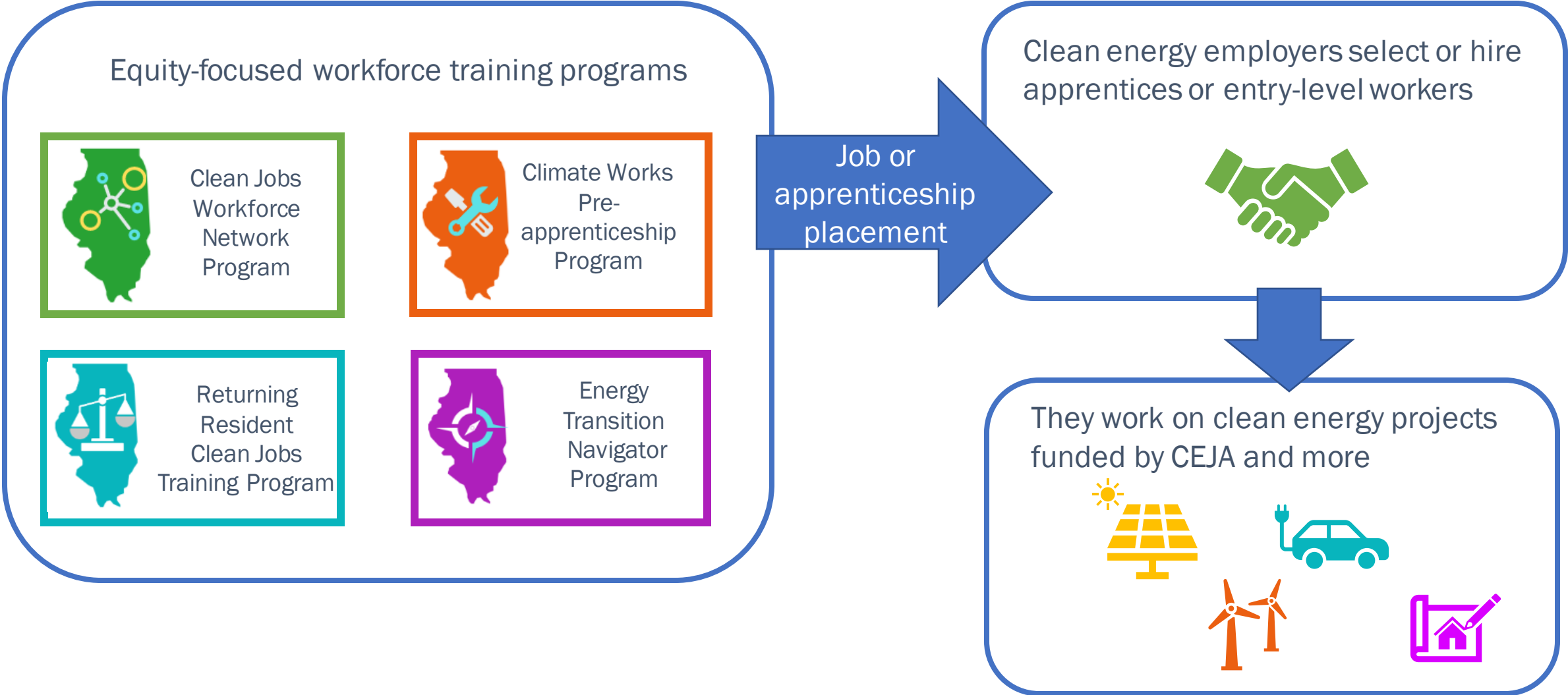
We need to expand the clean energy workforce to do the work.

Some groups of people and communities benefit more from clean energy investments. Some suffer more from environmental impacts and community disinvestment.



The benefits of clean energy investments and good-paying clean energy jobs should be distributed equitably.

# CEJA Workforce Ecosystem





# Clean Jobs Workforce Network Program, "Workforce Hubs"

- **Goal:** Prepare people for good-paying, entry-level clean energy jobs.
- **What:** Clean jobs training, utilizing a standard clean energy curriculum framework
- **Where:** 13 hubs throughout the state.
- **Funding:** \$24 million/year + \$15 million barrier reduction services/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based organizations\* and partners

Recruit participants

Provide clean jobs training

Provide robust wrap around supports

Provide job placement & transition support





# Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Program

- **Goal:** Prepare people for apprenticeship programs in construction & building trades
- **What:** Construction training, with a clean energy focus
- **Where:** 3 centers throughout the state
- **Funding:** \$10 million/year + \$6 million barrier reduction funds/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based organizations\* and partners

Recruit participants

Provide construction training

Provide robust wrap around supports

Provide apprenticeship placement & transition support





# Energy Transition Navigator Program

- **Goal:** Increase awareness of and participation in CEJA programs
- **What:** Provide recruitment, enrollment and engagement for CEJA workforce programs
- **Where:** 13 hubs and surrounding areas throughout the state
- **Funding:** \$6 million/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based providers and partners

Outreach to raise awareness

Recruitment for workforce programs

Employer and stakeholder engagement

Enrollment support for workforce programs



# Returning Resident Clean Jobs Training Program

- **Goal:** Prepare returning residents for good paying, entry-level clean energy jobs.
- **What:** Provide training, utilizing standard clean jobs curriculum framework.
- **Where:** Illinois Department of Corrections facilities
- **Funding:** \$6 million/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based providers and partners

Assistance with  
recruitment, enrollment

Training program  
delivery

Transition and job  
placement support

# 13 regional workforce hubs + 3 regional Climate Works Pre- apprenticeship centers

- Chicago West Side
- Chicago Southwest Side
- Joliet
- Waukegan
- Aurora

Climate Works  
Pre-apprenticeship  
Center 1

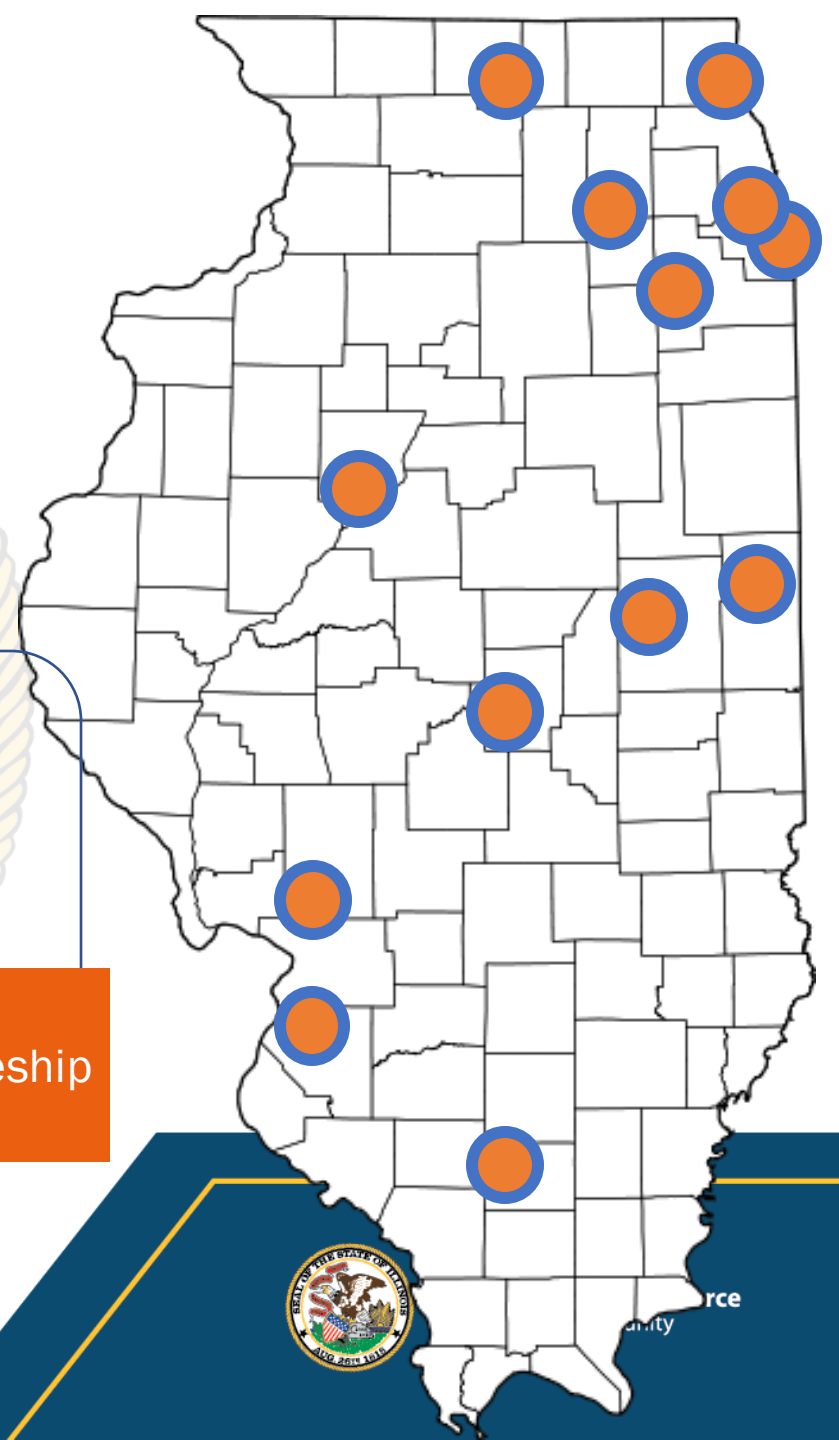
- Rockford
- Champaign
- Peoria
- Danville

Climate Works  
Pre-apprenticeship  
Center 2

- Decatur
- Carbondale
- East St. Louis
- Alton

Climate Works  
Pre-apprenticeship  
Center 3

Department of Corrections  
facilities: TBD

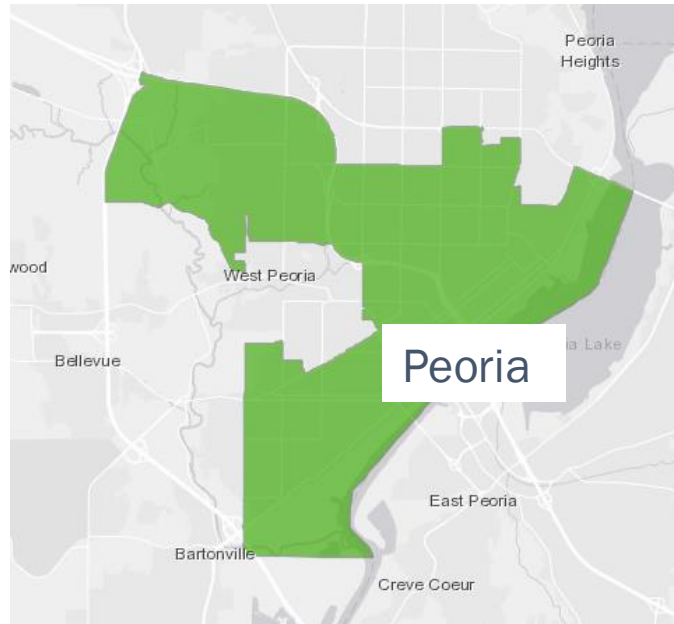
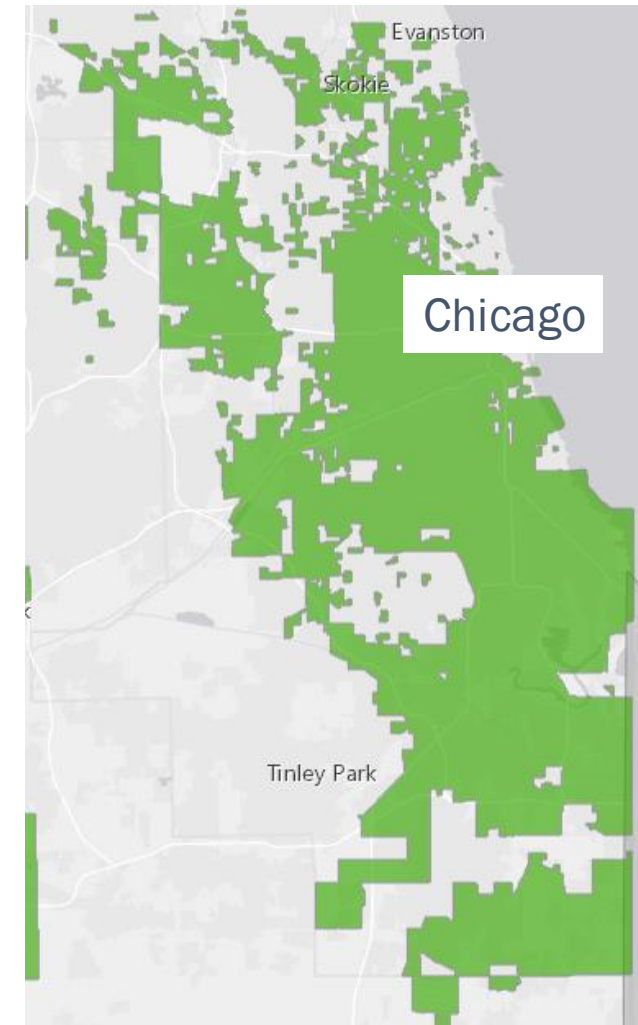


orce  
nity

# Who will programs serve?

Although eligibility varies by program, generally, the programs will serve:

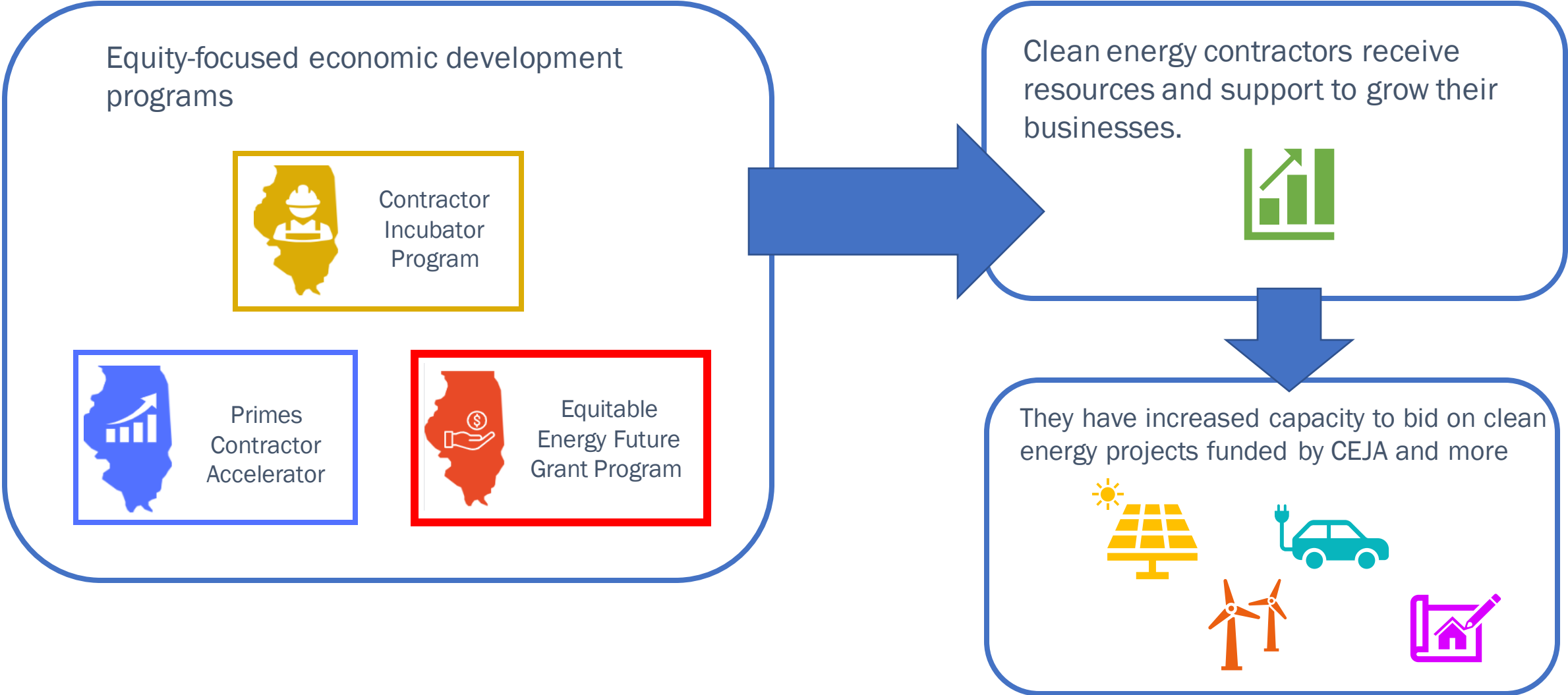
- People living in equity investment eligible communities (environmental justice or R3 communities)
- Formerly convicted persons or current/former members of foster care
- Displaced energy workers and their dependents



# Equity focused program culture: More than just numeric participant targets



# CEJA Workforce Ecosystem





# Clean Energy Contractor Incubator Program

- **Goal:** Help businesses grow and build capacity to do clean energy projects
- **What:** Provide funds, services, and support to contractor businesses
- **Where:** 13 regional contractor incubators throughout Illinois
- **Funding:** \$21 million/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based organizations and partners





# Clean Energy Primes Contractor Accelerator Program

- **Goal:** Help businesses grow and build capacity to do clean energy projects
- **What:** Provide funds, services, coaching and support to contractor businesses
- **Where:** 3 regional accelerators provide services throughout Illinois
- **Funding:** \$9 million/year
- **Delivered by:** Community-based organizations and partners



# Equitable Energy Future Grant Program

- **Goal:** Remove barriers to clean energy project, community, and business development caused by a lack of capital.
- **What:** Provide seed funding and pre-development opportunities for equity eligible contractors.
- **Where:** Throughout Illinois
- **Funding:** \$34 million/year
- **Delivered by:** DCEO

# CEJA Ecosystem: Close Coordination Required!

Workforce training and economic development programs



Clean Jobs  
Workforce  
Network  
Program



Climate Works  
Pre-  
apprenticeship  
Program



Contractor  
Incubator  
Program



Equitable  
Energy Future  
Grant  
Program



Energy  
Transition  
Navigator  
Program



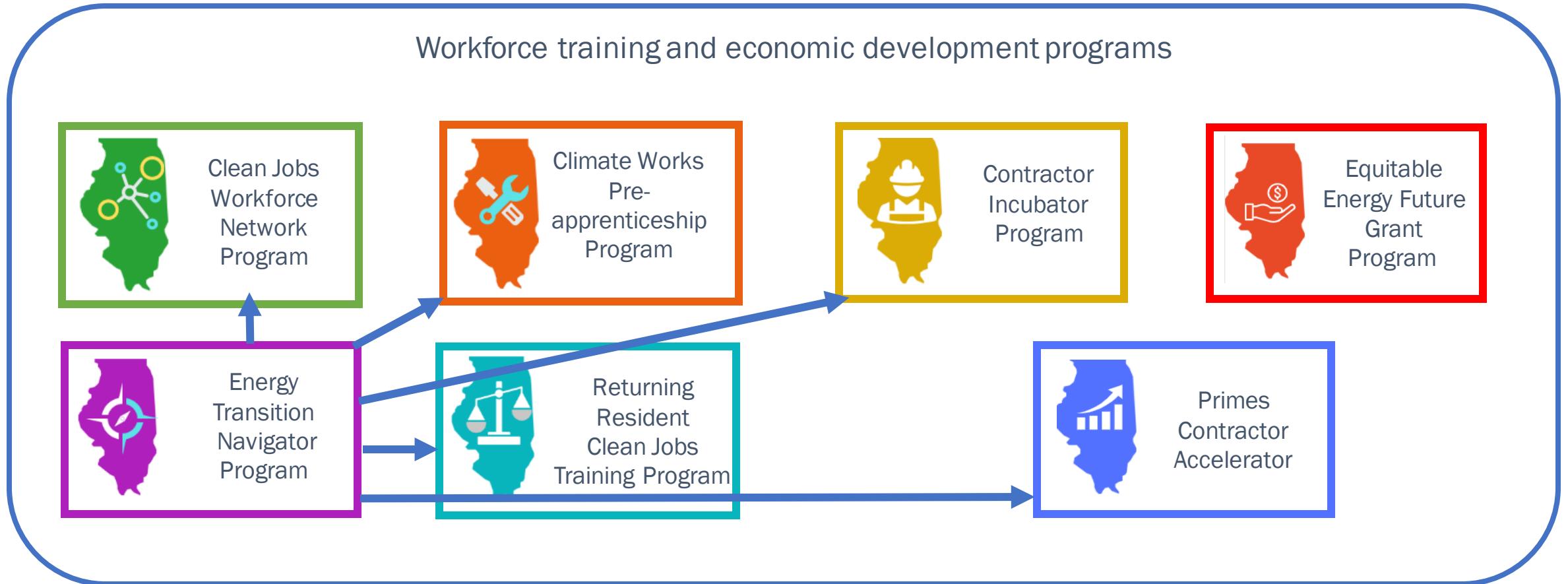
Returning  
Resident  
Clean Jobs  
Training Program



Primes  
Contractor  
Accelerator

The four workforce training programs will work together to engage employers, industry leaders, and union apprenticeships to facilitate job placement.

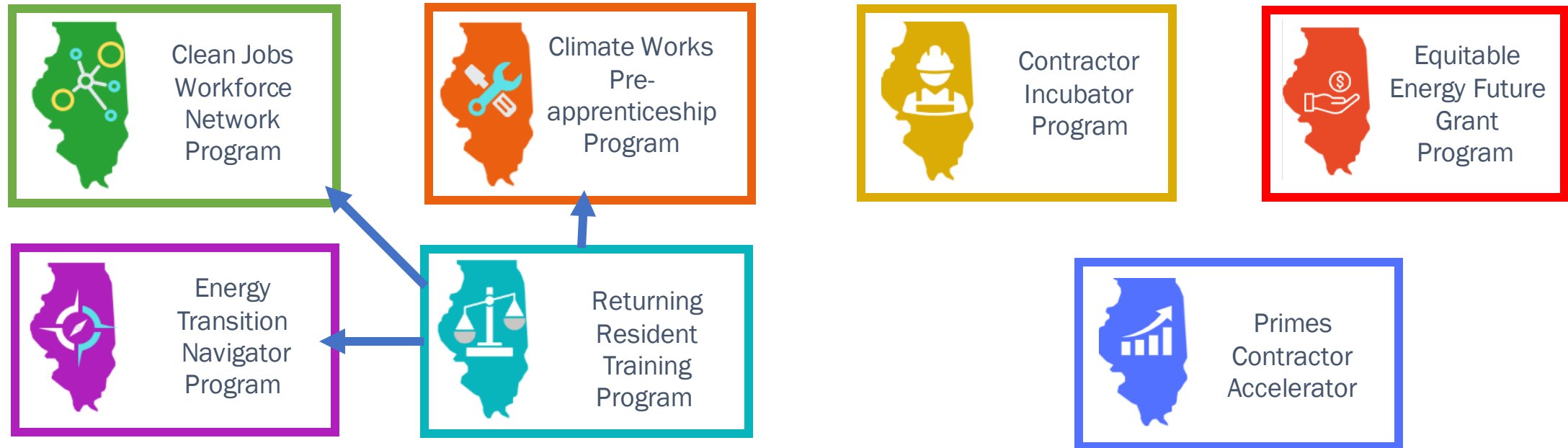
# CEJA Ecosystem: Close Coordination Required!



The Energy Transition Navigators are the connectors. They help connect people and communities to the CEJA programs by providing information and outreach.

# CEJA Ecosystem: Close Coordination Required!

Workforce training and economic development programs



While the Returning Resident Program provides training inside prisons, participants will need support on the outside, too. Coordination with the other CEJA workforce programs will help facilitate job placement, wrap-around supports, and additional training.

# CEJA Ecosystem: Close Coordination Required!

Workforce training and economic development programs



Clean Jobs  
Workforce  
Network  
Program



Climate Works  
Pre-  
apprenticeship  
Program



Contractor  
Incubator  
Program



Equitable  
Energy Future  
Grant  
Program



Energy  
Transition  
Navigator  
Program



Returning  
Resident  
Training  
Program



Primes  
Contractor  
Accelerator

Workforce training program graduates may want help to grow their businesses and careers. Workforce programs can connect them to contractor programs to support their growth.

**Apply for funding to deliver programs**



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# Funding across the CEJA workforce ecosystem



Clean Jobs  
Workforce  
Network  
Program

\$24 million/yr +  
\$15 million/yr barrier  
reduction funds  
Up to 13 awards



Climate Works  
Pre-  
apprenticeship  
Program

\$10 million/yr + \$6  
million/yr barrier reduction  
funds  
Up to 3 awards



Contractor  
Incubator  
Program

\$21 million/yr  
Up to 13 awards



Equitable  
Energy Future  
Grant  
Program

\$34 million/yr



Energy  
Transition  
Navigator  
Program

\$6 million/yr  
Up to 13 awards



Returning  
Resident  
Training  
Program

\$6 million/yr  
# awards TBD

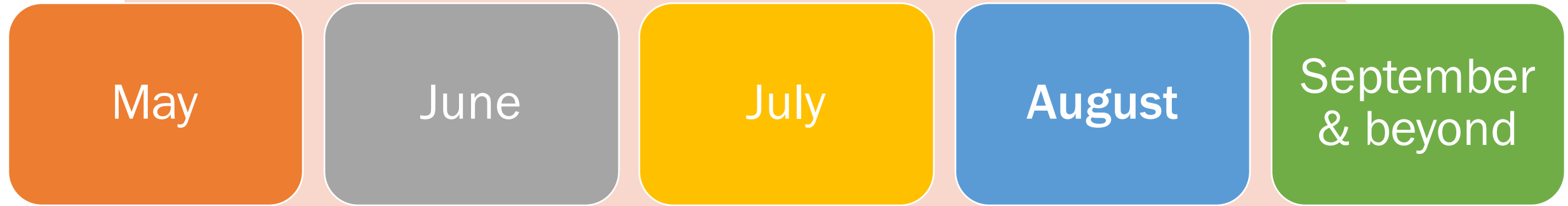


Primes  
Contractor  
Accelerator

\$9 million/yr  
Up to 3 awards



# NOFO Release Timeline (Estimate)



Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Program

Due July 3

Energy Transition Navigator Program

Due August 15

Clean Jobs Workforce Network Program

Contractor Incubator Program

Due early September

Equitable Energy Future Grant Program

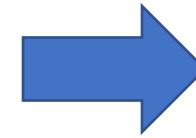
Returning Resident Training Program

Primes Contractor Accelerator

# Which CEJA Workforce Program should I apply for?

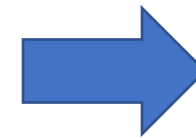
My organization/team has:

- Experience delivering construction and skills training
- Strong ties to target communities and populations in region.
- Strong ties to registered apprenticeship programs.



My organization/team has:

- Experience providing employment, skill development and related services.
- Strong connections to target communities and populations in region.
- Strong connections to clean energy employers.



# Which CEJA Workforce Program should I apply for?

My organization/team has:

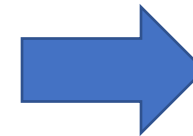
- Experience providing outreach and engagement
- Strong connections to target communities and populations
- Relationships with workforce agencies and community organizations in the region
- Ability to provide career navigation support



Energy  
Transition  
Navigator  
Program


My organization/team has:

- Experience providing wrap-around supports
- Strong ties to other organizations for referrals
- Ability to meet people's needs quickly and efficiently
- Strong ties to target communities and populations



Climate Works  
Pre-  
apprenticeship  
Program

Apply as part of  
a team to  
deliver Barrier  
Reduction  
Services

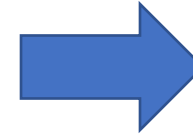


Clean Jobs  
Workforce  
Network  
Program

# Which CEJA Workforce Program should I apply for?

My organization/team has:

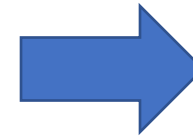
- Experience providing employment, skill development or related services to committed persons or justice-involved persons.
- Ability to help returning residents find employment.



Returning Resident Clean Jobs Training Program

My organization/team has:

- Experience providing support to small businesses in equity-investment eligible communities.
- Connections to contractors and industry leaders in clean energy, chambers of commerce, business development centers, and more.
- The ability to provide mentoring and coaching for contractors.



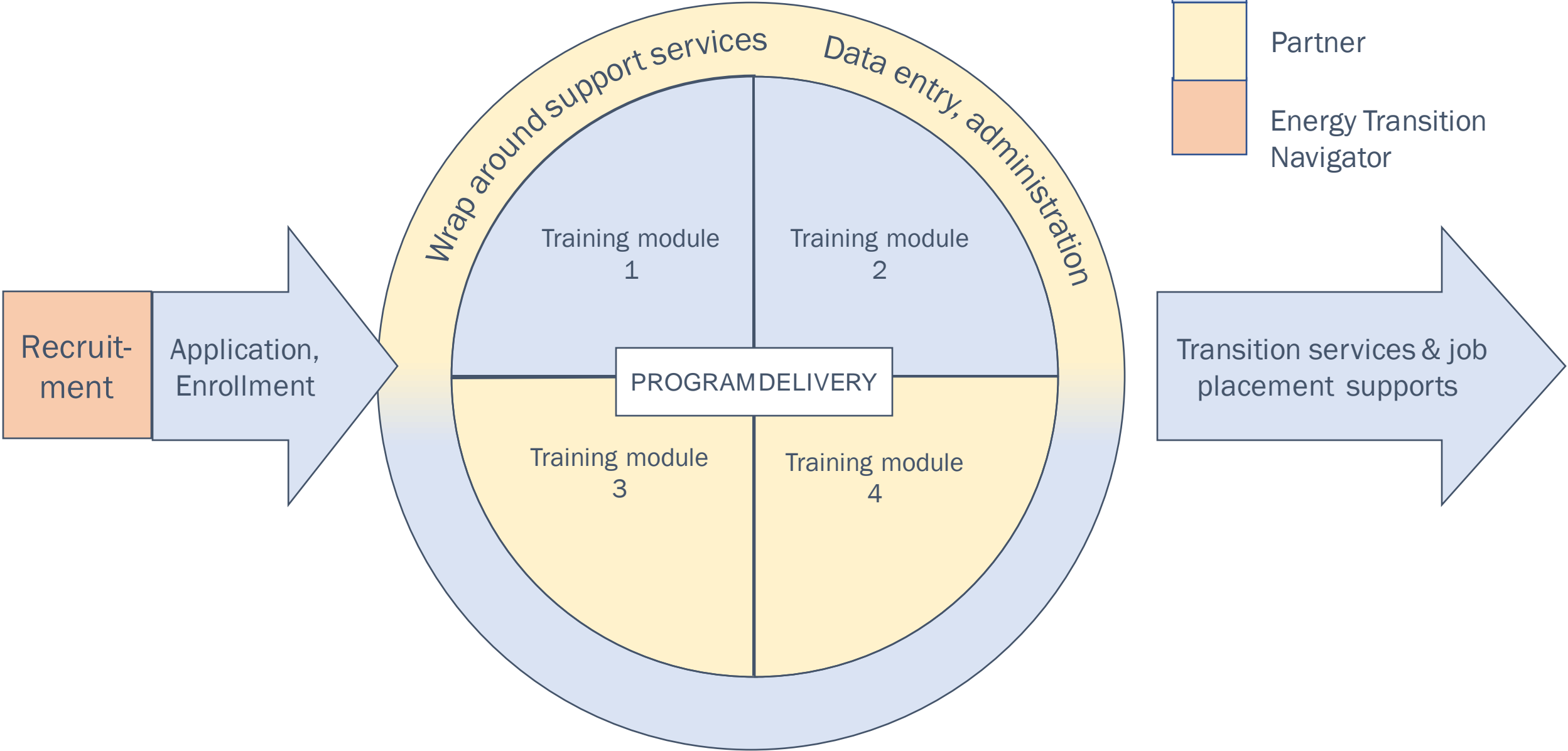
Contractor Incubator Program



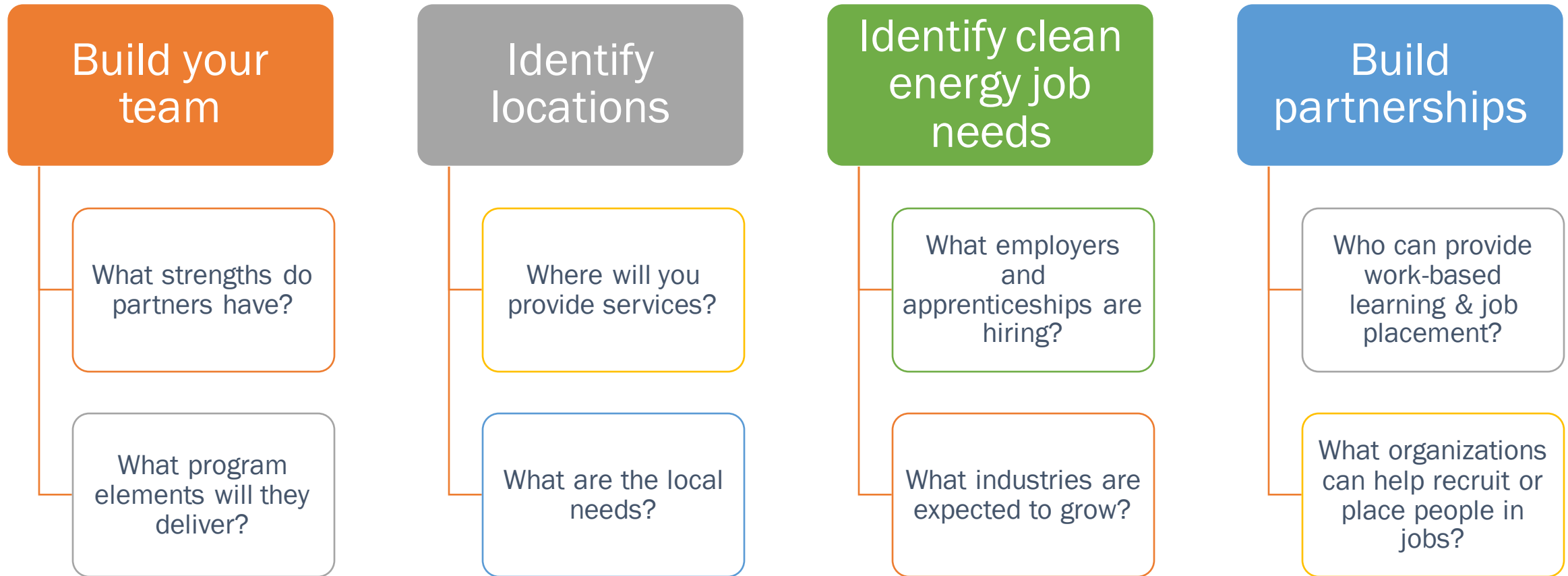
Primes Contractor Accelerator

# Single organization vs. team approach

- Main grantee
- Partner
- Energy Transition Navigator



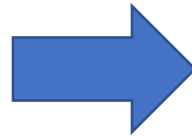
# Prepare to apply for funding



# Get a head start: Check out available resources

[dceo.illinois.gov/climateandequitablejobs.html](https://dceo.illinois.gov/climateandequitablejobs.html)

- Pages for each CEJA workforce program
- FAQs
- Clean Jobs Curriculum
- Reports and research



The screenshot shows the DCEO website header with the logo, navigation links (COVID-19 Resources, Assistance for Businesses, Assistance for Individuals, Assistance for Communities, About Us), and a search bar. The main content area is titled "Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Implementation" and lists various programs: CEJA Program Announcements, CEJA Commissions and Councils, Clean Jobs Workforce Network Program, Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Program, Energy Transition Navigator Program, Returning Resident Clean Jobs Program, FEJA Solar Training Programs, and Clean Energy Contractor. A featured section titled "Climate and Equitable Jobs Act" includes a photo of two workers in hard hats and a text block explaining the act's purpose and implementation. A list of bullet points highlights key provisions: incentivizing renewable energy, accelerating EV adoption, creating clean energy workforce training, and supporting communities facing energy transitions.

Stay Connected 🌐 Select Language

search

COVID-19 Resources Assistance for Businesses Assistance for Individuals Assistance for Communities About Us

DCEO

**Climate and Equitable Jobs Act Implementation**

CEJA Program Announcements

CEJA Commissions and Councils

Clean Jobs Workforce Network Program

Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Program

Energy Transition Navigator Program

Returning Resident Clean Jobs Program

FEJA Solar Training Programs

Clean Energy Contractor

## Climate and Equitable Jobs Act



The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA, P.A. 102-0662) was signed into law by Governor Pritzker on September 15, 2021. CEJA is comprehensive energy legislation that

- Incentivizes renewable energy development;
- Accelerates electric vehicle (EV) adoption and expands charging station infrastructure;
- Creates statewide clean energy workforce training programs to ensure our workforce is prepared for the jobs of the future; and,
- Supports communities facing energy transitions and much more.

DCEO's role in CEJA is to help Illinois' workforce prepare for and train for jobs in the clean energy industry and to provide support to workers and communities facing plant closures. These programs prioritize Illinoisians who live in communities that have historically faced economic barriers and environmental damage, bolstering a diverse workforce in the clean energy industry. DCEO is charged with implementing many programs under CEJA. Click on the links below to learn more.

# Potential Partner List (a living document)

- Organizations interested in partnering
- Clean energy employers
- Illinois Registered Apprenticeships
- Training Providers—clean energy related
  - NABCEP Registered Trainers

Sort by location, by focus

Email

[ceo.ceja@illinois.gov](mailto:ceo.ceja@illinois.gov) to  
be added to the list

<https://uofi.app.box.com/integrations/officeonline/openOfficeOnline?fileId=1142346867267&sharedAccessCode=>



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# Stay tuned! Take advantage of partner building and technical assistance sessions in July

CEJA Workforce  
Ecosystem Regional  
Networking events to  
meet other applicants,  
build partnerships

GATA training webinar

Writing an effective  
proposal webinar

Office hours for  
individualized  
technical assistance

# Connections to Existing Illinois Workforce and Economic Development Initiatives



# How do the CEJA Workforce Programs connect to the larger workforce ecosystem?



# Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)



*WIOA is designed to strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system. Its goal is to help American youth and people with significant barriers to employment get high-quality jobs and careers as well as funding for training. WIOA also assists employers with hiring and keeping skilled workers.*



# WIOA Core Four Partners

- Title I: Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs (DCEO) – employment and training services
- Title II: Adult education and Literacy (ICCB) – assist adult learners improve their basic literacy skills, obtain a high school equivalency certificate, improve their English language acquisition, and transition to postsecondary education or workplace training in order to obtain sustainable employment.

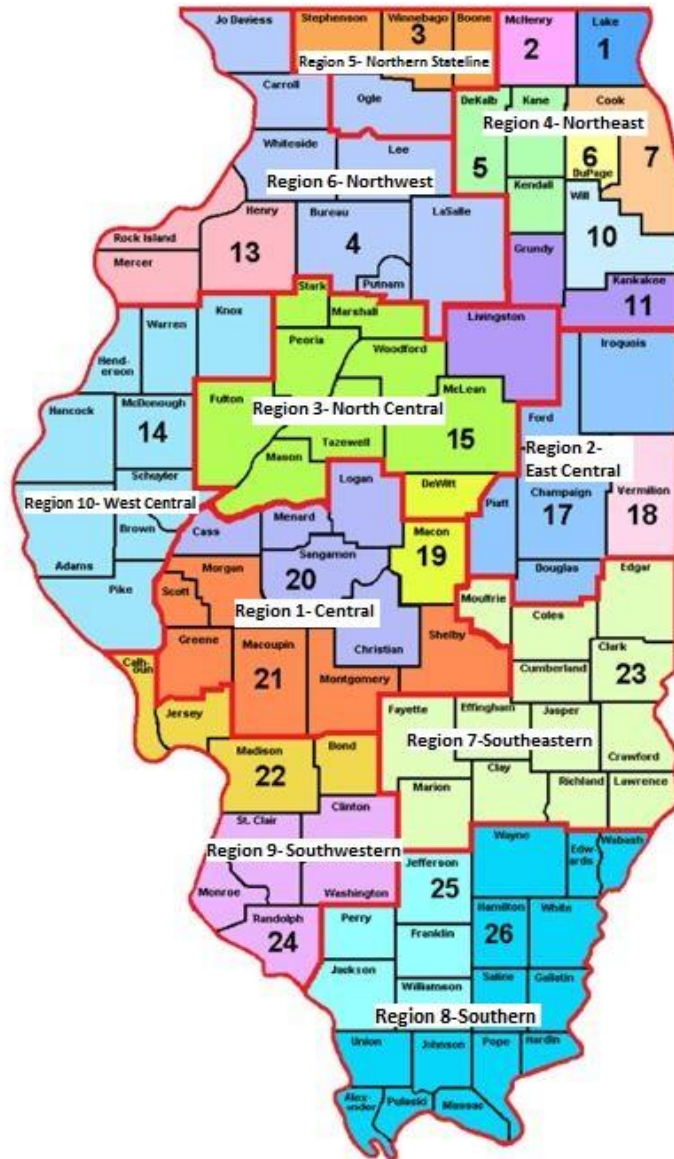


# WIOA Core 4 Partners (cont.)

- Title III: Wagner-Peyser Employment Services (IDES) – providing services including job search assistance, help getting a job referral, and placement assistance for job seekers. Additionally, re-employment services are available for UI claimants, as well as recruitment services to employers with job openings.
- Title IV: Vocational Rehabilitation Program (IDHS) – provide training, adaptive equipment, job placement, and direct support services to persons with disabilities who require assistance in achieving or retaining competitive integrated employment.



# Local Workforce Innovation Areas (LWIAs)



- The state administers WIOA through a network of LWIAs
- <https://tinyurl.com/mry7v9a9>



# WIOA Resources

- LWIA staff – outreach, referrals, experience with programs similar to yours
- WIOA State Unified Plan – 4-year strategy for state workforce development
  - <https://tinyurl.com/ypk3pf94>
- WIOA Regional/Local Plans – workforce partners, employers, demand sectors
  - <https://tinyurl.com/3s4tks9m>
- Regional Data Packets – population demographics & maps w/ high-level industry data
  - <https://www.illinoisworknet.com/WIOA/RegPlanning>
- Labor Market Data – gathered by IDES, linked on the WIOA Regional Planning page
  - <https://www.illinoisworknet.com/WIOA/RegPlanning>





# Office of Regional Economic Development (RED Team)

- Mission – To Promote Economic Development in the State of Illinois through Attraction, Retention and Expansion Programs
- Objective: Team RED lives and works in the communities they serve and are charged with facilitating economic development efforts in their regions, in addition to providing communities with front-line access to state programs and services
- The office of Team RED provides free and confidential services to companies seeking to expand or relocate within Illinois.



# RED Team Map



State divided into 10 Economic Development Regions (EDRs)

<https://tinyurl.com/xnhc3e9t>



# RED Team (cont.)

- There is a RED team member in each region that can help facilitate your contact with:
  - Local chambers of commerce
  - Local small business development centers
  - Regional planning commissions
  - Economic development organizations (EDOs)
  - Other industry associations and employer groups

Also just a good contact for getting the lay of the land  
For your region



# Illinois Office of Minority Economic Empowerment (OMEE)

- OMEE - *committed to providing minority-, women-, persons with disabilities and veteran-owned small businesses and entrepreneurs across the state with equitable access to opportunities and resources.*
- Services -
  - Provide businesses assistance and one-on-one support
  - Connect individuals to business resources and opportunities
  - Developed strategic partnerships to support the business ecosystem
  - Celebrate and amplify our cultural diversity
  - Drive equity-centered programs and policies



# Business Enterprise Program (BEP)

- *Business Enterprise Program for businesses owned by minorities, women, and persons with disabilities is committed to fostering an inclusive, equitable and competitive business environment that will support underrepresented businesses increase their capacity, grow revenue, and enhance credentials.*
- BEP Certified Directory: <https://tinyurl.com/eth6ae5r>



# Interconnecting Stakeholders (CBOs/Employers/Industry/Unions)



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# How will the CEJA Workforce Programs connect with stakeholders?



# What businesses say they need

***“How can I fill my ongoing need for talent?”***

***“Our [workforce] needs are unique, so we need customized solutions”***

***“I want to talk to someone who understands our industry”***

***“I just want to talk to one person or one group...that can address all my talent needs”***





# What is the Response?

## INDUSTRY SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

**Industry Sector Partnerships** are regional, industry-driven approaches to building a skilled workforce. They are perhaps the most effective way to align public and private resources to address the talent needs of employers, as defined by employers.

**Industry Sector Partnerships** are not a one-off program or a singular training initiative.



# Industry Sector Partnerships

## TALENT PIPELINE MANAGEMENT

1. Built on industry best practices
2. Focused on employer-ROI
3. Authentically employer-led
4. Structured process for collective action and decision making
5. More granular and actionable data on workforce demand
6. Full spectrum of talent sourcing partners
7. Shared value, competitiveness, and accountability

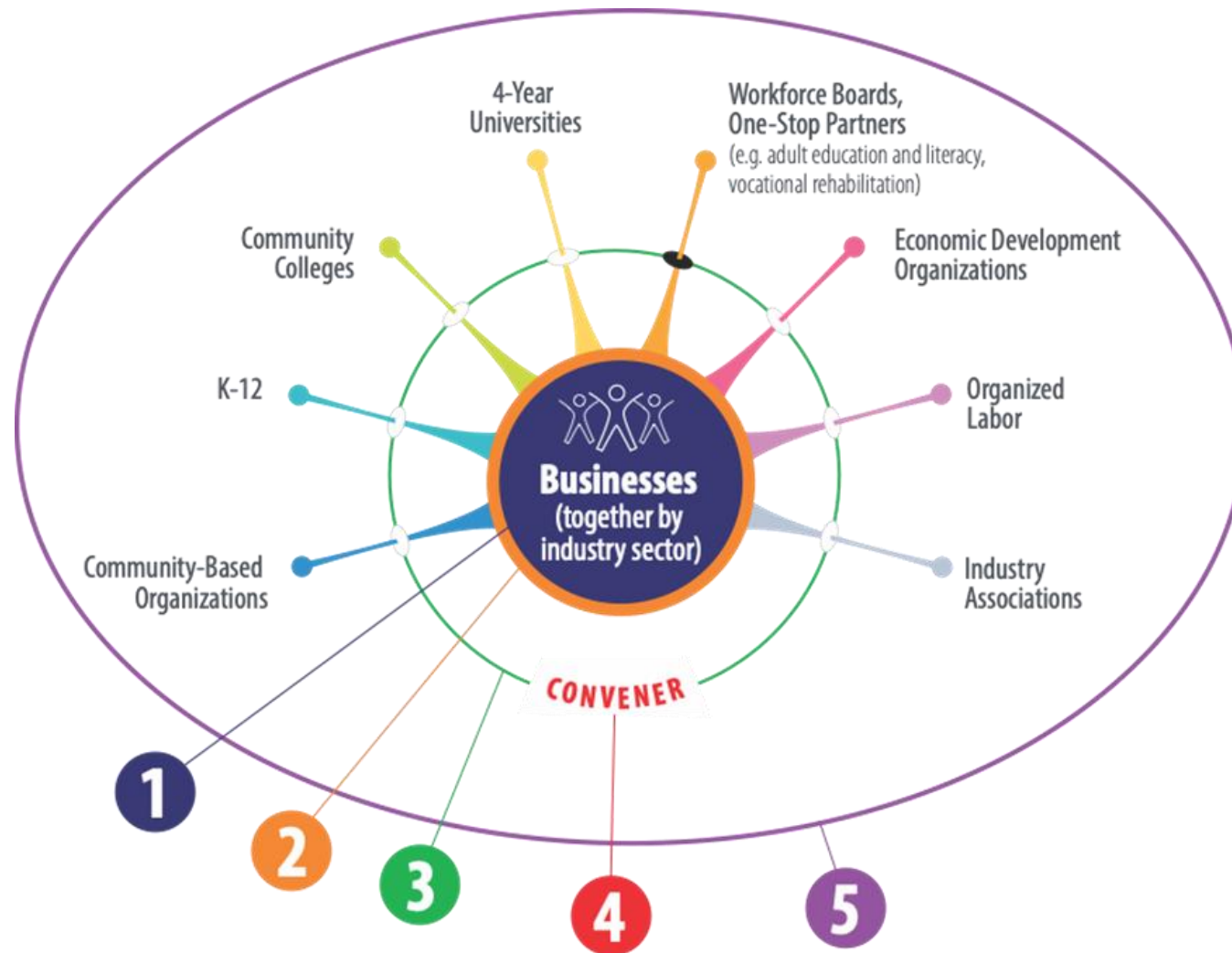


[Talent Pipeline Management® | U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation](https://www.uschamberfoundation.org)  
([uschamberfoundation.org](https://www.uschamberfoundation.org))



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# Who Are The Partners That Make Up An Industry Sector Partnership?



## Partner roles in industry sector partnerships

- 1** Business at Center
- 2** Industry as Partners
- 3** Aligned Community Partners
- 4** Qualified Convener
- 5** Regionally Focused

# Community Based Organizations

Community Based Organizations are key partners and offer:

- Deep connections with the people of the community
- Thorough knowledge of community needs
- Provision of services that support community members' needs
- Ability to identify resources and connect people to those resources
- Connections to other networks of community organizations



# Connecting to Unions through Apprenticeships



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Employers have access to well-trained workers.

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Apprenticeships reduce worker turnover, build loyalty.

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Employees benefit from skill gains and income throughout training period.

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Offer workers a way to start new careers with good wages.

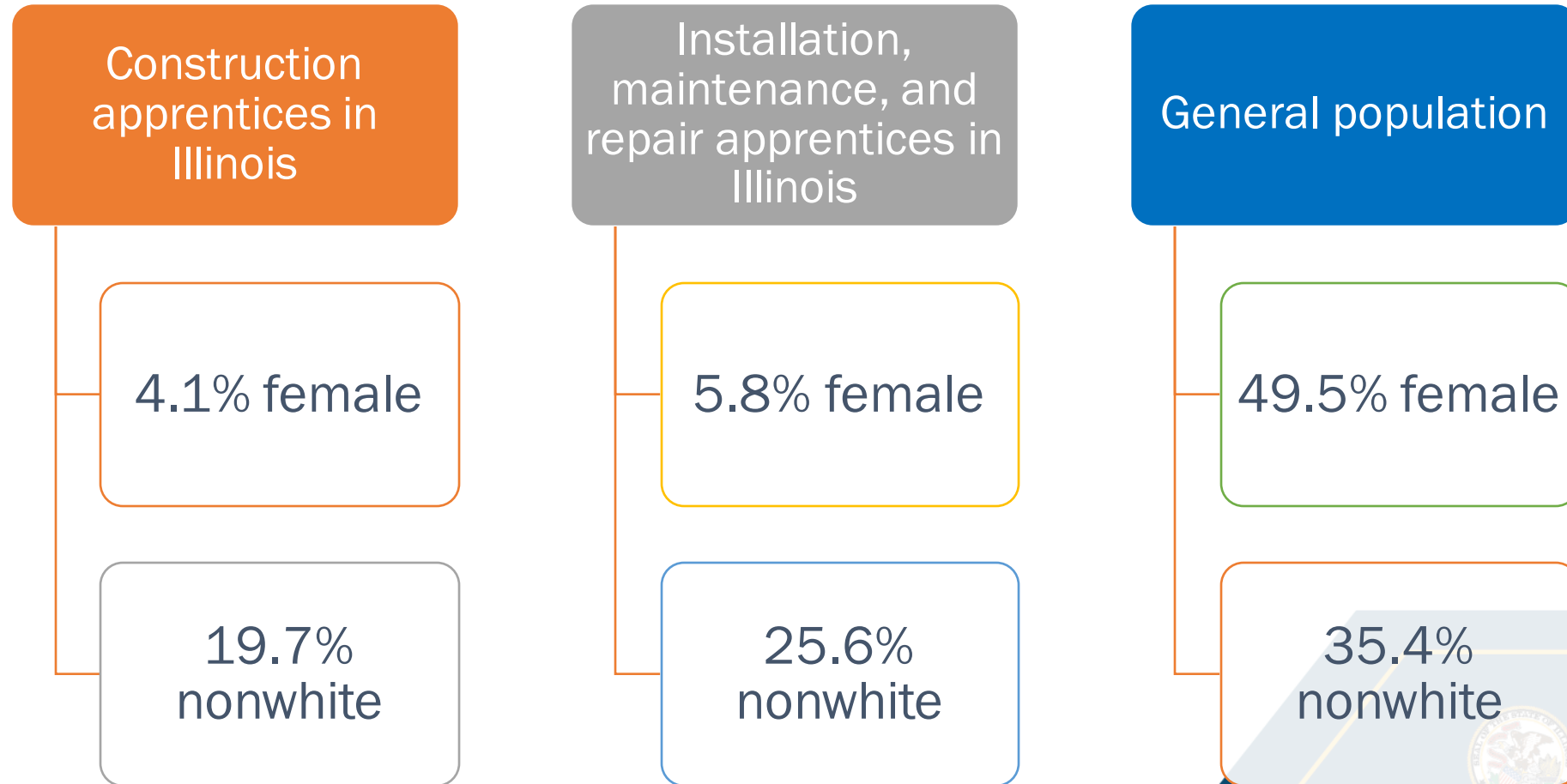
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Helps match employers to employees to determine if it's a good fit.



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# The problem: For many, apprenticeships are out of reach



# Solution: Clean Energy Pre-apprenticeships

Specifically target equity-focused populations and equity eligible communities

Prepare participants to enter and succeed in apprenticeships

Provide access to educational and career counseling and other supportive services and tutoring

Offer hands-on, meaningful learning activities

Provide support for applying to and transitioning into an apprenticeship program



# What Are Clean Energy Jobs?

- Jobs in the solar energy, wind energy, energy efficiency, energy storage, solar thermal, green hydrogen, geothermal, electric vehicle industries, other renewable energy industries
- Industries achieving emission reductions
- Related industries that manufacture, develop, build, maintain, or provide ancillary services to renewable energy resources or energy efficiency products or services
- Industries that manufacture and install healthier building materials that contain fewer hazardous chemicals.
- Administrative, sales, other support functions within these industries.





# Connecting to Unions through Apprenticeships

DCEO offers two Pre-Apprenticeship Programs currently

- Climate Works Pre-Apprenticeship program
- Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship program
- Job Training Economic Development-Youth Pre-Apprenticeship

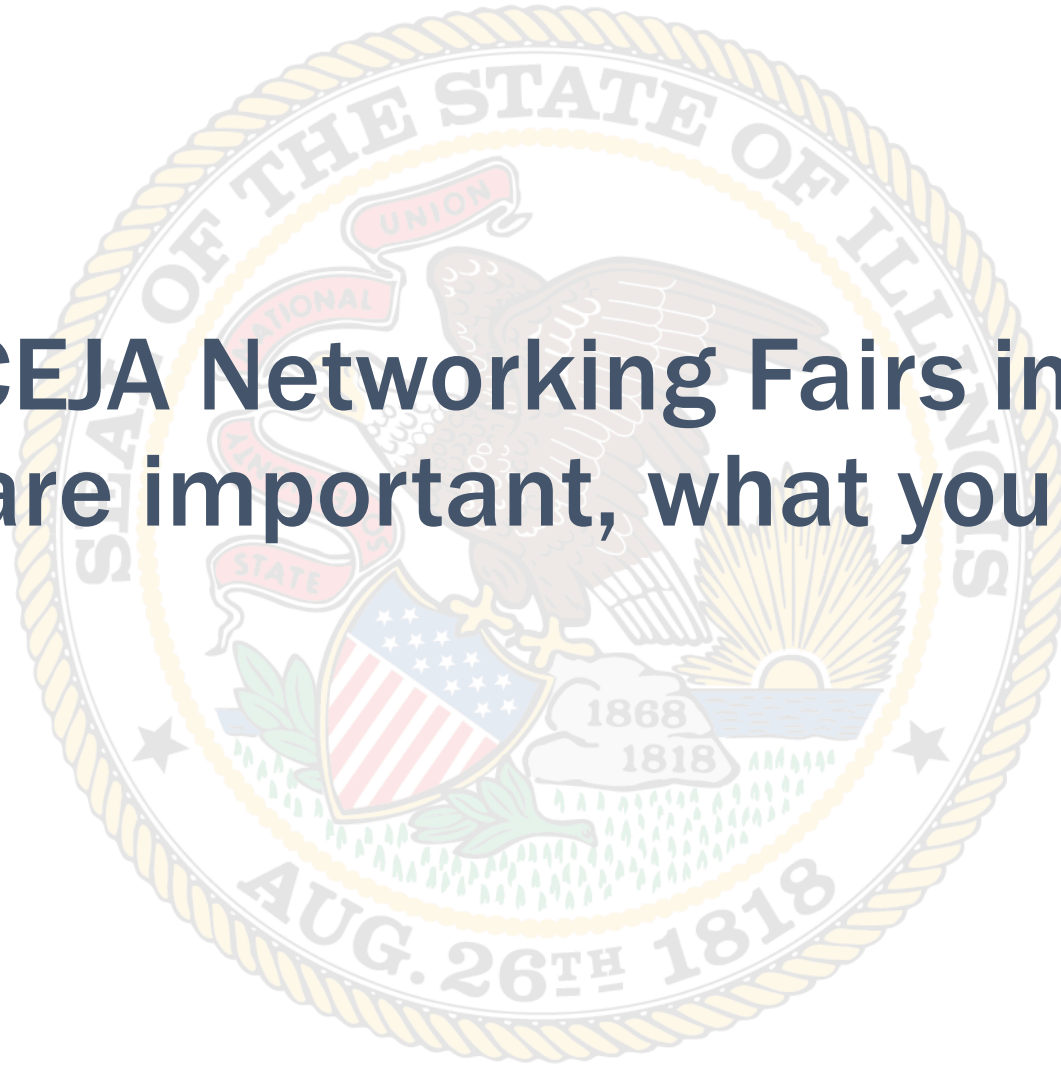


# Stakeholder Connection Resources

- Potential Partner Contact List <https://uofi.app.box.com/integrations/officeonline/openOfficeOnline?fileId=1142346867267&sharedAccessCode=>
- Climate Works Pre-apprenticeship Program ([illinois.gov](http://illinois.gov))
- Illinois Works Jobs Program Act - Illinois Works
- Registered Apprenticeship Program | [Apprenticeship.gov](http://Apprenticeship.gov)



# Regional CEJA Networking Fairs in July: Why they are important, what you can expect



# CEJA Regional Networking Fairs

- Raise awareness of the funding opportunities throughout the targeted communities
- Provide program design information derived from the legislation
- Share answers to frequently asked questions
- Draw interested service providers, educators, and employers
- Encourage partnership development among attendees and organizations who have expressed interest at past events



# CEJA Networking Fair Format

- Events are scheduled for 2-3 hours, starting at 1pm and divided into two sessions
- Session 1: Program information presentation and Q&A
- Session 2: A “job fair” style networking fair for potential grantees to connect with employers, potential partners, and other organizations
- Who should attend? Open to all.
  - Organizations interested in applying for funding to deliver the CEJA workforce programs
  - Organizations interested in partnering to deliver the CEJA workforce programs.
  - Clean energy employers and industry leaders
  - Regional economic development and workforce stakeholders.



# Roadshow Locations and Dates

Locations	Dates
Chicago West side	July 11-13 July 18-20 July 25-27
Chicago South/Southwest side	
Joliet	
Rockford/Waukegan	
Peoria/Champaign	
Alton/East St. Louis	
Carbondale	





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Climate and Equitable Jobs Act  
Workforce Programs

Questions? Email [ceo.ceja@illinois.gov](mailto:ceo.ceja@illinois.gov)



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