



SFWIB GLOBAL TALENT & COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE/TIME: October 16, 2025, 8:30AM

LOCATION: The Landing at MIA
 5-Star Conference Center
 7415 Corporate Center Drive, Suite H
The Florida Key Room
 Miami, FL 33126

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApcuCuqDoiHdfQcKwSUWUz1vGZliStRim>

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairwoman Ferradaz called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the SFWIB Global Talent and Competitiveness Council on October 16, 2025, at 8:40 am.

2. **ROLL CALL:** 8 members; 5 required; 5 present: Quorum

SFWIB GTCC MEMBERS PRESENT	SFWIB GTCC MEMBERS ABSENT	SFWIB STAFF
Brown, Clarence Del Valle, Juan-Carlos Ferradaz, Gilda, Chair Loynaz, Oscar M.D., Vice-Chair Palacios, Carol	Whitaker, David SFWIB GTCC MEMBERS EXCUSED Brecheisen, Bruce Grice, Sonia	Beasley, Rick Parson, Robert Smith, Robert
OTHER ATTENDEES		
Diaz, Lupe Dr., Miami-Dade County Public Schools Mitchell, Carlana, Miami-Dade County Public Schools Mumford, Ronald, CareerSource South Florida (Zoom)		

Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

2. Public Comment

Public comments should be two minutes or less.



Chairwoman Ferradaz opened the floor for comments from the public. No requests to speak were received by the Executive Office.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

3A. Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Meeting Minutes – August 21, 2025

Chairwoman Ferradaz presented the June 26, 2025 Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Meeting minutes for consideration before entertaining a motion.

****Vote deferred due to lack of quorum****

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

4. Information – OBBBA 45F Employer-Provided Child Care Tax Credit

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith introduced Section 45f of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), which raises the Employer-Provided Child Care Tax Credit. Starting after December 31, 2025, employers can claim up to \$500,000 (a 40% increase) for general employers and up to \$600,000 (a 50% increase) for eligible small businesses. The program also allows small and mid-sized companies to partner with third-party childcare providers, enhancing flexibility for those without on-site childcare facilities.

Mr. Smith discussed the impact of the improved employer-provided child tax credit on the workforce and outlined CSSF's strategies for advancing local workforce goals through employer outreach and partnerships.

Further discussions took place regarding local organizations eligible for the tax credit and the licenses necessary for qualification.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

The GTC Council did not have a quorum at this point on the agenda. Members will receive an overview of each item and will return to approve them once a quorum is established, provided the meeting is still in session.



5. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program for Existing Provider

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to approve the addition of the new Artificial Intelligence (AI) Engineer registered apprenticeship program to the curriculum of Academic Technologies d/b/a The Code Academy, which is already of our existing training partners.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

6. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program: Miami Dade College

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to add the Maker Professional (Machine Operator 1) registered apprenticeship program to the curriculum at Miami Dade College, which is already of our existing training partners.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

7. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program: Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to add the following registered apprenticeship programs to the curriculum at Miami-Dade County Public Schools, which is already of our existing training partners:

- Commercial AC, Reefer Technician
- Diesel Off-Road Maintenance Technician
- Medical Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

8. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program: College of Business and Technology (CBT)

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to add the following registered apprenticeship programs to the curriculum at College of Business and Technology (CBT), which is already of our existing training partners:



- Electrician
- Refrigeration and Air Condition Mechanic

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

9. Approval – New Machine Operator Apprenticeship Program OJT Employer Reimbursement

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to allocate an amount not to exceed \$82,000 in WIOA funding for on-the-job training reimbursements for the Machine Operator apprenticeship program at Miami Dade College.

Miami Dade College partnered with Collins Aerospace to hire five (5) apprentices with a starting wage of \$20.00 per hour with a 40% reimbursement for the employer, increasing to \$21.00 per hour after 1,500 hours have been completed.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

10. Approval – New Electrical Apprenticeship Reimbursement

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to allocate an amount not to exceed \$29,184 in WIOA funding for on-the-job training reimbursements for on-the-job (OJT) reimbursements for the Electrician Pre-apprenticeship Program at Miami Dade College. Mr. Smith advised that the Neenah Foundry will hire two apprenticeships at a starting rate of \$18.00 per hour, with a wage increase to \$24.00 per hour after 90 days. The Neenah Foundry will receive a 40% reimbursement for gross wages, which includes 1,640 hours of OJT.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

11. Approval – Existing Apprenticeship Reimbursements

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to allocate an amount not to exceed \$133,559.80 in WIOA funding for on-the-job



training reimbursements for current apprentices enrolled in various apprenticeship programs at Miami Dade College. These programs were already approved by the Council and the Board; however, they are now beginning the second phase of the program which will go into the new program year; as such, funding for PY 2025-2026 must be re-authorized.

Mr. Smith reviewed all programs, participant numbers, OJT hours, wage reimbursement rates, and performance measures with the council. Details are listed in the October 16, 2025 GTCC agenda packet.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

12. Approval – Paid Work Experience Policy Update

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented proposed revisions to the existing Paid Work Experience (PWE) Policy. The changes include exempting youth participants from the full-time employment requirement and clarifying exceptions for specialty programs such as Future Bankers.

[Dr. Oscar Loynaz arrived and introduced himself for the record. A quorum has been established. Previous items discussed by the council will be revisited for voting.]

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the board for recent updates to the Paid Work Experience Policy. Mr. del Valle seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

3A. Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Meeting Minutes – August 21, 2025

Motion: Dr. Loynaz approves the revised GTCC meeting minutes for August 21, 2025. Ms. Palacios seconded the motion; **the revised meeting minutes passed without dissent.**

Mr. Brown requested an update to the minutes to reflect that he should be marked as excused from the meeting on August 21, 2025, rather than absent. He experienced technical issues with Zoom but was able to resolve them before the full board meeting.



No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

5. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program for Existing Provider

Motion: Dr. Loynaz recommends approval to the Board for adding the AI Engineer apprenticeship program to the curriculum of an existing provider, Academic Technologies d/b/a The Code Academy. Mr. del Valle seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

[As a related party to the following items, Dr. Loynaz left the meeting during the discussion and votes for items 6, 8, 9, 10, and 11.]

6. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program: Miami Dade College

Motion: Mr. del Valle recommends approval to the Board for adding the Maker Professional (Machine Operator I) apprenticeship program to the curriculum of an existing provider, Miami Dade College. Mr. Brown seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

9. Approval – New Machine Operator Apprenticeship Program OJT Employer Reimbursement

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the Board an allocation not to exceed \$82,000 in WIOA funding to Collins Aerospace for employer reimbursements related to on-the-job training (OJT) with the Machine Operator Apprenticeship program. Ms. Palacios seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.



10. Approval – New Electrical Pre-apprenticeship Reimbursement

Motion: Mr. del Valle recommends approval to the Board an allocation not to exceed \$29,184 in WIOA funding to the Neenah Foundry for employer reimbursements related to on-the-job training (OJT) with the Electrician pre-apprenticeship program. Mr. Brown seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

11. Approval – Existing Apprenticeship Reimbursements

Motion: Mr. del Valle recommends approval to the Board an allocation not to exceed \$133,559.80 in WIOA funding to the following employers for 40% OTJ wage reimbursements associated with apprenticeship programs:

- The Palm South Beach Cook Apprenticeship - \$12,776
- Earl's Restaurant Cook Apprenticeship - \$13,600
- Margaritaville Bayside Marketplace Restaurant Manager - \$3,600
- Landshark Bar & Grill Restaurant Manager - \$216.00
- The Carter Academy Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship – 2 New Participants: \$25,200
- The Carter Academy Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship - Participant Dropped: \$713.00
- YWCA Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship - \$12,310
- Shanti Kids Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship - \$12,450
- Hellman Worldwide Logistics, Inc. Customs Broker Apprenticeship (2 apprentices) – \$27,036.80
- Hellman Worldwide Logistics, Inc. Transportation and Logistics Apprenticeship - \$13,348

Each apprenticeship: 1 participant unless otherwise noted.

Ms. Palacios seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

[Dr. Loynaz returns to the meeting.]



7. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Programs: Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the Board for adding four apprenticeship programs (i.e., Commercial AC, Reefer Technician, Diesel Off-Road Maintenance Technician, Medical Assistant, and Pharmacy Technician) to the curriculum of an existing provider, Miami-County Public Schools. Dr. Loynaz seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

8. Approval – New Registered Apprenticeship Program: College of Business and Technology (CBT)

Motion: Mr. del Valle recommends approval to the Board for adding two apprenticeship programs (i.e., Electrician and Refrigeration and Air Condition Mechanic) to the curriculum of an existing provider, College of Business and Technology (CBT). Ms. Palacios seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

New Business

Mr. Brown has requested that some individuals participating in the apprenticeship programs be presented to the Council and Board to share their experiences and assess the value of any authorized programs.

Chairwoman Ferradaz is in support of this effort and went on to ask about how we are tracking participants in the programs. Mr. Smith advised that we do track the progress of program participants which is how we report on second and fourth quarter performance measures.

Mr. Smith also advised that Dr. Diaz from Miami-Dade County Public Schools was invited to discuss their Summer Youth Internship Program; however, they were unable to present due to the technical difficulties experienced during the Council meeting; however, she will present to the full board.



Being as there were no further questions or concerns, the meeting adjourned at 9:20am.