



SFWIB GLOBAL TALENT & COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE/TIME: December 18, 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
Brecheisen, Bruce Brown, Clarence (Zoom) Del Valle, Juan-Carlos (Zoom) Ferradaz, Gilda, Chair Palacios, Carol (Zoom) Whitaker, David (Zoom)	SFWIB GTCC MEMBERS EXCUSED Grice, Sonia Loynaz, Oscar M.D., Vice-Chair	Beasley, Rick Parson, Robert Smith, Robert Vice, Karlisha
OTHER ATTENDEES		
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 – October 16, 2025

Chairwoman Ferradaz presented the October 16, 2025 Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Meeting minutes for consideration before entertaining a motion.

Motion: Mr. Whitaker recommends approval of minutes from October 16, 2025, Global Talent and Competitiveness Council Meeting. Ms. Palacios seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

4. Approval – The Future Bankers Program

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to approve the continuation of the Future Bankers Program for program year 2025-2026.

Since this is a well-established and familiar program for the SFWIB, the recommended approval from the GTCC will allow the item to be included in the consent portion of the agenda for the upcoming full board meeting.

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the board for allocation of an amount not to exceed \$125,000 in WIOA funds to support the Miami Dade College Future Bankers Training Camp Program. Mr. del Valle seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

5. Approval – Miami-Dade County Summer Youth Internship Program

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation the continuation of the Summer Youth Internship Program through Miami-Dade County Public Schools.



The exact recruitment numbers for the program have not yet been finalized; however, they expect to be in the same range as last year. If additional funding is received, they would like to expand the program's reach this year.

Since this is a well-established and familiar program for the SFWIB, the recommended approval from the GTCC will allow the item to be included in the consent portion of the agenda for the upcoming full board meeting.

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the board for the allocation of an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to Miami-Dade County Public Schools for the Summer Youth Internship Program. Mr. Whitaker seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

Mr. Brecheisen inquired about the duration of the program (5-weeks) and if it was too short a timeframe to be meaningful. Mr. Smith explained the timeframe was determined based on students' extracurricular activities starting in August and the need to have fully engaged participants without scheduling conflicts. Additionally, financial institutions participating in the program also played a role in determining program length versus cost to maximize participation numbers.

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

6. Approval – Apprenticeship Employer Wage Reimbursements

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the agenda item, and Mr. Smith presented a recommendation to fund the second phase of the following employer-driven apprenticeship programs through Miami Dade College:

- The Palm's Hotel Culinary Specialist Apprenticeship (2 apprentices) - \$27,200
- The Palm's Hotel, Associate Apprenticeship - \$12,800
- Earl's Restaurant Culinary Specialist Apprenticeship (4 apprentices) - \$57,600
- Earl's Restaurant Manager Apprenticeship (5 apprentices) - \$82,000
- Margaritaville Bayside Culinary Specialist Apprenticeship - \$15,600
- Balan's Brickell, LLC, Culinary Specialist Apprenticeship (3 apprentices) - \$45,600
- Issabella's Miami Culinary Specialist - \$15,200

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- Landshark Bayside, Restaurant Manager Apprenticeship - \$15,600
- Children of the New Sun, Teacher Assistance Apprenticeship (2 apprentices) - \$24,680
- Haitian Youth and Community Center of Florida, Inc., Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship (5 apprentices) - \$63,000
- Empowering Youth Inc., Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship – \$12,340
- MLS Academy, Teacher Assistant Apprenticeship (3 apprentices) - \$37,500

Each apprenticeship: 1 participant unless otherwise noted.

The first phase of the program was completed in PY 2024-2025; it has since entered its second phase, which transitions into PY 2025-2026.

Motion: Mr. del Valle recommends approval to the board to allocate an amount not to exceed \$409,120 in WIOA funding for on-the-job (OJT) training reimbursements for apprentices enrolled in Miami Dade College Apprenticeship programs as discussed. Mr. Brecheisen seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

Chairwoman Ferradaz asked about the difference between the employer-driven On-the-Job Training (OJT) reimbursement program discussed in this agenda item and the Bean Automotive Apprenticeship Program, which is the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Smith explained that the current agenda topic concerns previously approved programs that need funding for the latter half of the year. In contrast, the next agenda item focuses on a different program, which features a new cohort that requires board approval.

7. Approval – Apprenticeship Employer Wage Reimbursement for Bean Automotive

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to approve the fourth cohort of the Bean Automotive Group Apprenticeship Program through Miami Dade College.

An error was noted in the reimbursement rate (agenda item lists 30%; should be 40%). The necessary calculations to amend the recommendation have been made and added below.

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Bean Automotive Group Apprenticeship Program – 4 th Cohort				
Project Wage	OJT Hours	40% Wage Reimbursement	Training Cost Per Apprentice	Total Project Cost @ 15 Apprentices
\$16.50	1000	\$6.60	\$6,600	\$99,000
\$17.00	1000	\$6.80	\$6,800	\$102,000
Total Cost:				\$201,000

Motion: Mr. Brecheisen recommends an amended approval to the board for the allocation of an amount not to exceed \$202,000 in WIOA funding for on-the-job (OJT) training reimbursements to Bean Automotive for the 4th cohort of the Automotive Technician Specialist Apprentice Program. Mr. del Valle seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

8. Approval – Paid Work Experience Contract with Cristo Rey Miami High School

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to allocate funding for Cristo Rey Miami High School's proprietary work-study program, which focuses on career readiness & occupational skills training within a structured work-based internship.

Mr. Beasley provided additional insight on the program advising that it is paid work experience for about 50 students who will be working with corporate sponsors one day per week.

Chairwoman Ferradaz and Mr. Brecheisen expressed concern about the vague nature of the proposal, noting the lack of specific information about number of students, per-student allocation, and expected outcomes of the program.

Additionally, there was concern about the urgency of this request; why the item should not be transitioned to the February meeting once all information is available for consideration. Mr. Smith explained that the funding is for this school year, giving the administrators only five months to use the funds if approved today. However, it can be tabled until the January Executive Committee Meeting or the February board meeting.



Mr. Whitaker shared that he would not like to present the recommendation to the board until we have the information requested.

Motion: Mr. Brecheisen presented a motion to table item eight until the February meeting once the requested information is available. Mr. Brown seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

9. Approval – New Apprenticeship Program for Miami-Dade County Transit

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the new Transit Bus Technician/Bus Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship Program for Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works.

There is no request for funding at this time; the recommendation seeks approval to move forward with the development of this program.

Motion: Mr. Brecheisen recommends approval to the board for adding the new Miami-Dade Transit Apprenticeship Program (Apprenticeship Title: Miami-Dade County Transit Bus Technician/Bus Maintenance Technician). Mr. Whitaker seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

10. Approval – New Apprenticeship Program for Award Excellence Institute

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith presented the recommendation to approve the following new apprenticeship programs: Heating and Air Conditioning, Project Management, and Residential Carpenter for an existing training provider, Award Excellence Training Institute. The programs have been approved at the State level; they now require regional workforce board approval.

Motion: Mr. Whitaker recommends approval to the board for adding the following new apprenticeship programs for Award Excellence Training Institute:

- Heating & Air Conditioning Mechanic Installer
- Project Manager



- Residential Carpenter

Mr. Brecheisen seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

11. Approval – On-the-Job Training Policy Revision

Chairwoman Ferradaz introduced the item; Mr. Smith reviewed recent revisions to the SFWIB On-the-Job Training Policy which has been outlined for ease of reference.

Motion: Mr. Brown recommends approval to the board recent revisions to the SFWIB On-the-Job Training Policy. Mr. Whitaker seconded the motion; **item is passed without dissent.**

No further questions or comments were presented. Item closed.

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