

AUGUST 2026

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER



Part 1: Self Accessed Career Services

This guide is meant to help our local area understand the basic eligibility criteria for Illinois Workforce Development. Understanding who is responsible at the local level for each WIOA program is essential. That is where the newsletter is going to assist you over the next few issues!

WIOA Self Accessed Career Services are career services to individuals via self-service access at an Illinois WorkNet Center or One Stop also known as an American Job Center. Each workforce area has one and LWIA 26's is located at the SIC Campus in Carmi at 1700 College Avenue. The One-Stop Operator is Terri Absher. The Illinois WorkNet Center can be reached at 618-382-8869.

You might be wondering what Self Accessed Career Services are and if there are any eligibility criteria. Anyone can access these self services which include job postings, computer usage to look for and apply for jobs, information on what services are available through the One-Stop, and even referrals.

In the next issue, we will discuss WIOA Title 1B Adult.

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting:
September 8th
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi, IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-8869



WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

We currently have 11 Work Experience staff in place at various businesses throughout the 7 counties. Fall 2026 College enrollment stands at 49 participants in the following programs: 1 Accounting/Business, 4 CDL, 2 Medical Coding, 2 Criminal Justice, 28 Nursing, 1 Physical Therapy, 2 Medical Assistants, 1 Medical Lab Tech, 1 Welding, 1 Early Childhood. We currently have 8 OJT participants at MotoRad and 1 at Rides Mass transit. All of these individuals are from Champion Labs. The Skillforge training is completed. 3 participants went back to PGI(formerly Champ Labs). This is a manufacturing training course that includes OSHA, fork truck, electrical, mechanical, and fluid power systems certificates. FMH Pre Apprenticeship Exploration is completed with 5 participants going on to college courses. We have 6 head start employees participating in the Early Childhood Education program at Wabash Valley College. They can earn a level 2 credential which is 18 credit hours or a level 3 credential which is 33 credit hours.



SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

For the fall 2026 semester Shawnee Development put on 21 new students for a total of 44 students. The WIOA program has hired David Davis as a Career Planner and Paul Jones as the Work Experience Coordinator. Work Experience has two Youth customers in Hardin and Massac County. There are Adult customers in Alexander, Pulaski, Massac, and Hardin counties with more customers being placed at worksites soon. In the month of August, SDC has attended the Southern 14 In-Service at the Carmi SIC Building and the Resource Community Service at Shawnee Community College.

CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication!
Thanks!!

SOUTHERN 14 UPDATE

It is time to start the board re-appointment process. 1/3 of our board is re-appointed each year. Please be on the lookout for that paperwork and submit it as soon as you can. The due date for our Composition Summary Form in September 30th. We have completed our move! We are now in the SIC Carmi Building which is also our One Stop Center or Illinois WorkNet Center for LWIA 26. If anyone you know needs our services please send them to 1700 College Avenue Carmi, IL 62821 or call 618-382-8869 and we would be happy to assist them in WIOA services or utilize our new referral system to get them the assistance they need! This month we planned our first In-Service at this location with our Service Providers. Training went well and Career Planner's are utilizing the new Work Experience and OJT policy updates and forms. Pam has been attending Walk in Wednesday's at Frontier to assist students in applying for WIOA. Pam and Jessica attended the new student orientation at Frontier on August 19th.

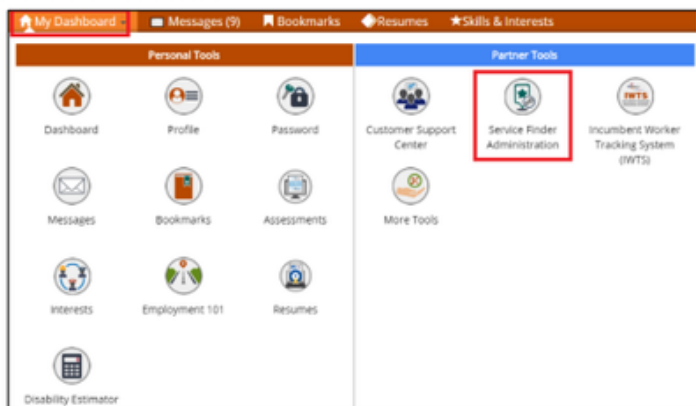
HOW TO SERIES:

Did you create your partner account from the July issue but don't know what else to do?

Illinois workNet Service Finder: Updating your WIOA Funded Site Type



1. Go to the Illinois workNet homepage: <https://www.illinoisworknet.com/>
2. Click **Login** in the header to sign into your existing workNet account for access the Service Finder Administration Dashboard:
3. Once logged in, click on **My Dashboard** on the workNet banner and select **Service Finder Administration** under the Partner Tools section.



Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

Labor Market Area	Jun 2026	Jun 2025	Over-the-Year Change
Carbondale Area			
Jackson County	5.3%	4.8%	0.5
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	4.6%	4.5%	0.1
Hamilton County	4.2%	4.1%	0.1
Hardin County	4.7%	5.6%	-0.9
Pope County	5.9%	5.5%	0.4
Saline County	4.6%	4.6%	0.0
White County	4.5%	4.4%	0.1
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	8.7%	3.9%	4.8
Lawrence County	4.6%	4.1%	0.5
Richland County	4.1%	3.6%	0.5
Wabash County	4.7%	3.7%	1.0
Wayne County	4.8%	3.9%	0.9
Regional Counties			
Alexander County	6.5%	7.0%	-0.5
Franklin County	5.0%	4.7%	0.3
Jefferson County	5.2%	4.5%	0.7
Johnson County	5.1%	4.8%	0.3
Massac County	4.5%	4.2%	0.3
Perry County	5.1%	4.7%	0.4
Pulaski County	6.2%	5.4%	0.8
Union County	4.3%	4.2%	0.1
Williamson County	4.2%	4.1%	0.1
Cities			
Carbondale City	6.2%	5.5%	0.7
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	4.0%	3.8%	0.2
LWIA 24	4.0%	3.9%	0.1
LWIA 25	4.8%	4.5%	0.3
LWIA 26	4.9%	4.4%	0.5
Southern EDR	4.8%	4.5%	0.3

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -375 jobs in June 2026, compared to June 2025.

Payroll job gains were posted among employers in the Government (+75), Construction (+50) and Leisure-Hospitality (+25) sectors.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Private Education-Health Services (-175), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-175), Professional-Business Services (-50), Manufacturing (-50), Financial Activities (-25), Information (-25), Other Services (-25) and Natural Resources-Mining (-25) sectors between June 2025 and June 2026.

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -150 jobs in June 2026, compared to June 2025.

Increases in payroll job totals were recorded among employers in the Construction (+75) and Financial Activities (+25) sectors year-over-year.

Payrolls were unchanged among employers in the Natural Resources-Mining, Manufacturing, and Professional-Business Services sectors.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Private Education-Health Services (-125), Government (-50), Leisure-Hospitality (-50), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-25), Other Services (-25) and Information (-25) sectors.

Olney - Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -825 jobs in June 2026, compared to June 2025.

Payrolls expanded in the Information (+25) and Construction (+25) sectors year-over-year.

No changes in payroll jobs were recorded among employers in the Financial Activities, Professional-Business Services and Trade-Transportation-Utilities sectors.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Manufacturing (-625), Private Education-Health Services (-75), Other Services (-50), Government (-50), Natural Resources-Mining (-25) and Leisure-Hospitality (-25) sectors.

Released: July 23 , 2026

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com