

PASCO-HERNANDO WORKFORCE BOARD, INC.
Education and Industry Consortium Quarterly Report

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Report quarter: 07/01/2026 – 09/30/2026

Date of meeting: September 14, 2026

Report prepared by: Nicole Beverley

Local workforce development board contact: Ania Williams Date: 09/14/2026

B. ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Industry or Education Organization	Contact Information
Jackie Eden	Pasco EDC	Industry Organization	Jeden@pascoedc.com
Shook, Tonia	Fred K. Marchman Technical	Education Organization	tshook@pasco.k12.fl.us
Swanson, Maria	Keiser University	Education Organization	mswanson@keiseruniversity.edu
Deedra Mitchell	Pasco County Schools	Education Organization	dcopelan@pasco.k12.fl.us
Reza, Maria	BayCare	Industry Organization	Maria.reza@baycare.org
Cooksey, Calvin	FleetForce	Industry Organization	Calvin@drivefleetforce.com

B. SUMMARY REPORT

1. Summary analysis of the local labor market based on the industry representative needs and education offerings. (Provide summary)

See attached minutes

2. Information on priority industry sectors and occupations for the local area. (Provide summary)

See attached minutes

3. Information on the status of existing talent pipelines for in-demand occupations. (Provide summary)

See attached minutes

**Education and Industry Consortium
Consortium Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2026**

Meeting Location: *Meeting Held Virtually via Microsoft Teams*

Consortium Members Attending: Tonia Shook, Maria Swanson, Calvin Cooksey, Maria Reza, Jackie Eden

Consortium Members Absent:

Staff Attending: Brenda Gause, Ken Russ, Nicole Beverley

Others Attending: Terri Clark - One Stop Operator, Deedra Mitchell – Pasco County Schools

Quorum Present? Yes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Terri Clark

Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Introductions

Terri Clark called the meeting to order and welcomed participants.

Labor Market/Industry Needs

The committee reviewed Florida labor market information for July 2026. Florida's unemployment rate was 4.6%, ranking seventh lowest among the ten largest states and thirty-ninth among all states. The state added 41,000 jobs over the year, representing 0.4% year-over-year growth, and gained 4,500 jobs during July. Members noted that Florida continued to show positive employment momentum among large states.

CareerSource Pasco Hernando Update

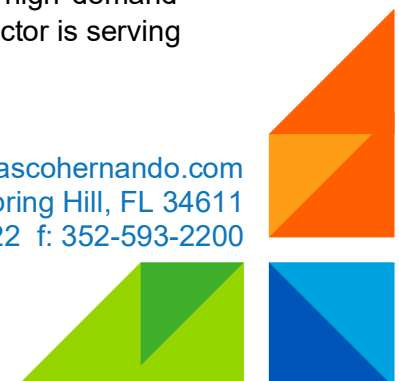
Brenda Gause and Terri Clark provided CareerSource Pasco Hernando updates. The discussion highlighted the value of connecting education and industry partners and included follow-up on summer youth work experiences and developing employment pathways for young adults.

Round Table Member Update(s)

Tonia Shook provided the following updates:

- Marchman Technical College experienced an unexpected vacancy in its high-demand electricity program shortly before the school year began. One new instructor is serving

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approximately 40 students while a second instructor with 31 years of commercial experience completes the onboarding and background-screening process.

- Marchman added a second electricity instructor allocation in response to strong student demand and the program waitlist.
- Instructors mapped curriculum by Occupational Completion Point and aligned industry certification testing with the point at which students learn the related material. The approach is intended to strengthen instructional support, certification attainment, and workforce readiness.
- Ms. Shook planned to present on effective career and technical education systems at the Postsecondary Association for Career and Technical Education conference in Arlington, Virginia.

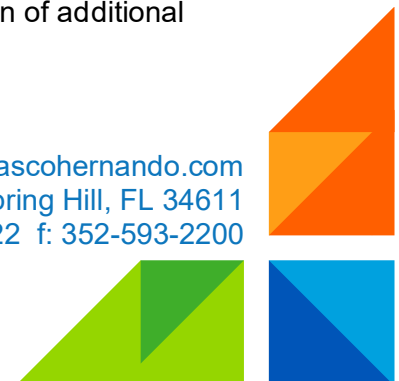
Maria Swanson provided the following updates:

- Keiser University's New Port Richey campus continues to focus on programs that lead directly to employment, particularly for first-generation college students.
- The campus will launch an accelerated Nuclear Medicine Technology associate degree program in October 2026. The first cohort filled within one month, and the following year's cohort was already approximately half full.
- Students are traveling from throughout the region for allied health programs and may be assigned clinical rotations within a 200-mile radius. Travel costs and attendance requirements remain concerns for students commuting long distances.
- The Nuclear Medicine Technology program needs approximately 15 clinical sites before its first clinical rotation in February 2027 and had secured approximately 10 sites at the time of the meeting. Maria Reza offered to connect Keiser's affiliation team with BayCare to discuss adding the program to their clinical affiliation agreement.
- Keiser's nursing graduates maintain an NCLEX pass rate above 90%, and its nursing and sonography programs continue to produce full graduating cohorts.

Maria Reza provided the following updates:

- BayCare's summer youth experiences were successful in exposing participants to healthcare careers beyond nursing and medicine, including pharmacy, radiologic technology, surgical technology, and healthcare operations.
- A 16-year-old participant completed a paid work experience at the Land O' Lakes HealthHub and rotated through several outpatient service areas. BayCare is exploring a pilot focused on opportunity youth at the Land O' Lakes HealthHub, Morton Plant North Bay Hospital, and BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel, with a goal of placing one to two young adults at each location.
- Eight of the nine graduates from BayCare's first practical nurse apprenticeship cohort remain employed with BayCare.
- BayCare began a four-person surgical technology apprenticeship cohort and plans a second four-person cohort in January 2027. BayCare is also working toward a practical nurse apprenticeship cohort of up to 20 participants and is exploring registration of additional internal training programs as apprenticeships.
- Calvin Cooksey provided the following updates:

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- FleetForce expanded its Class B commercial driver training at Pasco-Hernando State College. The four-day program has generated strong enrollment and has enabled participants to begin work quickly after training.
- Members discussed recent federal compliance actions affecting commercial driver training providers. Mr. Cooksey reported that 110 providers nationwide faced immediate action, another 220 were given time to close or comply, and 13 of the immediately affected providers were in Florida.
- FleetForce has assisted workforce and education partners seeking compliant training options when local commercial driver training providers were affected.

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Apprenticeship Updates

Deedra Mitchell provided the following updates:

- Pasco County Schools' Diesel Mechanic Apprenticeship began in June 2026 with six apprentices assigned across the district's bus garages. One apprentice recently advanced into a vehicle technician position, creating another apprenticeship opening.
- The district is developing a possible Building Maintenance Repairer apprenticeship to address 17 open positions in carpentry, electrical, painting, cabinetry, masonry, fencing, and flooring. A summer 2027 start is being considered.
- Other apprenticeship projects in development include wastewater management with Hernando County Government, childcare with Wilton Simpson Technical College, and surveying with Florida Design Consultants.
- A regional apprenticeship convening is scheduled for October 15, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. at Kirkland Ranch Academy of Innovation. The meeting will bring together current and prospective apprenticeship partners from Pasco and Hernando counties.
- Partners are also clarifying the differences between internships and registered apprenticeships and reviewing potential funding support through CareerSource Pasco Hernando, local educational agencies, and the Florida Department of Education.
- Mr. Cooksey offered to connect Ms. Mitchell with two local waste companies seeking mechanics. Ms. Reza offered to connect her with a Hernando County electrical contractor interested in apprenticeship support. Ms. Mitchell will follow up and share the regional convening invitation.

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Closing Remarks

The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for November 16, 2026.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

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