WORKSHOP THEMES

1. ***Regional Strategies*** - Examples include (but not limited to) approaches to moving beyond geographical boundaries and examples that serve customers regardless of zip code. Regionalism is a strategic approach and intentional effort that moves beyond geographical boundaries. Submissions should address regional strategies, approaches and activities that move beyond boundaries including through the use of technology and distance education.

2. ***Trends in Workforce, Education & Training*** - Examples include (but not limited to) trends in labor market information, demographic characteristics, policy, service delivery models, program activities, customer profiles, etc. that influence the world of workforce development, education, training, and Pennsylvania's economy.

3. ***Pipeline & Pathway Development*** - Examples include (but not limited to) strategies and initiatives targeting career readiness, awareness, and pathway efforts to tap the talents of Pennsylvania's workforce pipeline. Discussion focus on emergent workers including youth, young adults, opportunity youth, adult education students, jobseekers, long-term unemployed, able-bodied, and disconnected populations.

4. ***Talent @ Work*** - Examples include (but not limited to) strategies and initiatives targeting the existing workforce (incumbent workers) ranging from workplace literacy activities, work-based learning, upskilling/reskilling, lifelong learning, layoff aversion, career changes, and related activities.

5. ***The Future of Work (and Workforce Development)*** - The world of work is changing. Workforce development as a system of partners cannot rely solely on its original principles. Examples include (but are not limited to) looking at the future profile of Pennsylvania's workforce, employer talent demands, as well as the ability for a system (workforce, education, training, business, economic development, etc.) to respond.

6. **Breaking Down Barriers** - Long-standing barriers to work inhibit Pennsylvania workers from succeeding and influence business growth. Examples include (but are not limited to) solutions-based discussions centered on incorporating social determinants of health into employment & training programs, providing effective wraparound and supportive services that mitigate/lessen barriers to work (transportation, childcare, housing, incarceration, benefits cliff, etc.) for target populations, creating seamless referral systems and more. Workshops that present strategies and activities that focus on individuals with disabilities, English language learners, re-entrants, individuals with basic skills needs, and other individuals with the greatest barriers to employment are preferred.

7. **Board Development, Planning & Oversight** - Examples include (but not limited to) local workforce development board directed presentations such as board administration, shared services across boards, board consortium approaches, fiscal administration, quality assurance & monitoring, PA CareerLink® certification, one-stop operator practices, staff development & training, and more.

8. **Employer Engagement & Partnerships** - Employers are a driving force in Pennsylvania's workforce development system. Examples of workshops include (but are not limited to) innovative business services and engagement strategies, sustaining employer engagement and investment, demonstrating value and ROI to employers, understanding and prioritizing employer demand, sector-strategies, and more.

9. **Telling Your Story: Capturing & Promoting Impact** - Often heard "What is PA CareerLink®?" or "What is a workforce board?" Examples include (but not limited to) answering these questions, demonstrating local, regional and statewide value-add as a "go-to" resource using outreach, education, earned media, social media, and other methods!

10. **Technical Assistance** - Workshops provided by federal and state agencies and other funders or oversight entities.

11. **Other Innovative Ideas** - Have a creative innovative workshop not captured above? Submit your idea here.