



Okanogan Quarterly Performance Report July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

From Minimum Wage to a Better Future

After years of working minimum wage jobs, Cory Howard knew something had to change. Despite earning his high school diploma through Wenatchee Valley College's High School Plus program in 2017, he found himself stuck in positions that barely covered his family's basic needs. As a security guard at 12 Tribes Casino making \$17.00 per hour, Cory struggled to support his girlfriend and their two young daughters. The lack of advanced education or specialized training meant his options for better-paying jobs were severely limited.

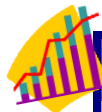
That's when Cory was introduced to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and career services available through his local WorkSource center in Omak. He saw commercial driving as his ticket to a more stable future, but the training costs stood as a major barrier. Through the WIOA Adult program, Cory qualified for financial assistance that made CDL training at Aces and Eights possible – an opportunity that would have remained out of reach without the program's support.

While juggling family responsibilities and his full-time security job, Cory threw himself into his CDL training in September 2024. His determination paid off when he completed the program in November. The investment in his education quickly proved its worth: within weeks, the Odom Corporation, a beverage shipping company active throughout the Northwest, hired him as a commercial driver at \$23.00 per hour – a 35% increase from his previous wage.

For Cory and his family, this \$6-per-hour raise means an additional \$12,480 in annual income, transforming their financial stability. His story shows how targeted workforce development funding can break the cycle of low-wage employment, creating lasting positive change for entire families.

Congratulations to Cory and
Odom Corporation!





Registration & Exit

YTD Actual

Annual Goal

Total Served

175

345

Adults

Registered

43

59

Placement Rate (% employed at exit)

100%

80%

Credential Rate (% trained in voc ed who earn a credential)

86%

82%

Dislocated Workers

Registered

15

24

Placement Rate (% employed at exit)

83%

81%

Credential Rate (% trained in voc ed who earn a credential)

100%

81%

Youth

Registered

17

36

Placement Rate (% of youth employed or in post sec ed)

50%

65%

Credential Rate (% youth who achieved a HSD or GED)

75%

51%

Discretionary Grant Enrollments: Federal EcSA: 7/6; State EcSA 43/22



Participants in Occupational Education	24-25 Students (YTD)				23-24 Students (Year Total)			
	Big Bend	WVC	WVC Omak	Other	Big Bend	WVC	WVC Omak	Other
Health Care	19	20	13	13	17	17	13	15
Office/Misc	6	6	0	7	6	5	0	9
Industrial & Technical	9	7	1	46	12	6	0	63



Workforce Investment Fiscal

Budget

Expenditures

Expenditure Rate

Obligation Rate

Career Services *

799,060

374,438

47%

96%

Work Based Training

On-The-Job/Incumbent Worker Training

69,660

12,035

17%

44%

Work Experiences/Project Learning

94,028

28,233

30%

32%

Occupational Education

104,500

57,091

55%

101%

Healthcare

21,487

Office/Other

1,500

Industrial/Technical

34,104

Basic Education

Secondary Education

120,649

51,463

43%

85%

Computer Basics

49,485

21,755

44%

88%

Support and Incentives

330,475

78,841

24%

78%

Total

1,567,857

623,856

40%

85%