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*This list of employer engagement intermediaries was prepared on behalf of the Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board's Business Engagement Committee.*

**Workforce intermediaries** play a central role in building equitable, demand-driven talent systems by connecting job seekers, educators, training providers, and employers. Among their many functions, one of the most critical is employer engagement—ensuring that workforce development efforts are aligned with the real and evolving needs of industry. Through this work, intermediaries help shape training programs, create pathways to quality jobs, and strengthen regional economies by making sure that employers have access to a skilled and prepared workforce.

Within this broader infrastructure, employer engagement intermediaries serve as specialized actors focused on cultivating and sustaining relationships between employers and education or training systems. They facilitate work-based learning opportunities, gather employer input to inform curriculum and program design, and help translate labor market needs into actionable strategies. The following list highlights workforce intermediaries that are actively leading or supporting employer engagement efforts—demonstrating how this function is essential to building responsive, inclusive, and future-ready workforce in Southern California.

### **UNITE-LA**

UNITE-LA is a nonprofit intermediary that bridges the business, education, and workforce sectors to advance cradle-to-career outcomes and economic mobility, particularly for underserved communities. With over 25 years of experience, it engages employers in designing equitable, industry-aligned career pathways and work-based learning opportunities. UNITE-LA plays a key role in aligning regional talent development strategies with labor market needs, serving as the Employer Engagement Specialist for the City of Los Angeles' Hire LA's Youth campaign.

### **Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation**

LAEDC serves as a regional economic development intermediary, connecting employers with trained, diverse talent through its Business Engagement Program. It supports businesses in filling workforce gaps by facilitating access to job-ready candidates, many of whom have overcome employment barriers. LAEDC also provides labor market intelligence, fosters industry-education partnerships, and helps align workforce training with high-demand sectors to promote inclusive economic growth.

### **Network Kinecton**

Network Kinecton is a workforce intermediary that connects college students with employers through internships, apprenticeships, and job placement programs. It collaborates with community colleges, workforce agencies, and employers to build



sustainable talent pipelines and upskill incumbent workers. Their services include employer engagement, apprenticeship development, and customized recruitment strategies.

### **South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB)**

SBWIB serves 11 cities in the South Bay region of Los Angeles County, offering workforce development services that align with employer needs. Through initiatives like Aero-Flex and Bio-Flex, SBWIB partners with industry to create employer-driven apprenticeship models and career pathways in high-demand sectors such as aerospace, bioscience, and IT.

### **San Diego Workforce Partnership**

The San Diego Workforce Partnership is the region's leading workforce development organization, providing research, training, and employer engagement services. It collaborates with education and industry partners to align workforce programs with the needs of a rapidly evolving, skills-based economy.

### **Valley Economic Alliance**

The Valley Economic Alliance supports economic growth in the San Fernando Valley by connecting employers with skilled talent through initiatives like Tech Talent Connect. This program builds a diverse, tech-literate workforce by linking employers with training providers and job seekers, especially youth and adults seeking vocational training.

### **Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation (VSEDC)**

VSEDC is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that empowers underserved communities in South LA through business coaching, access to capital, and workforce development. It partners with local agencies to operate BusinessSource Centers and supports entrepreneurs with training, mentorship, and technical assistance.

### **BizFed Institute**

The BizFed Institute is the educational and civic engagement arm of the Los Angeles County Business Federation. It convenes public-private partnerships to address workforce challenges, hosts career fairs, and provides research and resources to help employers build inclusive, competitive talent pipelines.

### **Los Angeles Regional Consortium (LARC)**

LARC is a collaborative of 19 community colleges in LA County that bridges education and industry to meet regional workforce needs. It facilitates employer engagement through advisory roles, apprenticeships, and curriculum alignment, ensuring students are prepared for high-wage, high-demand careers.



## Nexus Edge

Nexus Edge is a workforce intermediary that bridges the gap between education and employment by integrating employer-defined skills into K-12 and postsecondary classrooms. Through partnerships with industry, Nexus Edge transforms existing employer training materials into curriculum-aligned content, enabling students to gain real-world, job-relevant skills with minimal lift from employers. Their platform supports scalable, equitable access to work-based learning and credentialing, helping to democratize economic opportunity and prepare learners for in-demand careers.