



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Workforce Board Tracking Temporary Jobs; Working in Partnership with Fox Cities, FDL and Oshkosh Chambers**

The Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit based in Neenah with a focus on workforce training and job search strategies, has launched an online survey to capture employers hiring for temporary roles during the COVID-19 crisis.

On Friday, March 27, Envision Fond du Lac, the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce distributed a survey to each of their respective membership lists with a link to track temporary roles to be filled during this health crisis.

Prior to Governor Tony Evers' health emergency declaration and the "Safer at Home" policy announced on March 25 designed to limit contact, our state and region had a record low unemployment rate. Most employers were not able to fill existing positions and there were close to twice as many job postings on the state's Job Center of Wisconsin web site than the state had bodies to fill. We were facing a hiring crisis!

At first, schools cut bus drivers and restaurants cut their servers to focus on take-out and delivery only. These layoffs were followed by hair salons, retail stores and other non-essential employers. As of today, the number of individuals filing for unemployment across the country is at more than 3 million.

“Typically, when someone gets laid off, the local workforce board goes to work helping the unemployed person get retraining and job search assistance to find a new role,” said Anthony Snyder, CEO of the Fox Valley Workforce Development Board. “We fully expect that any business that had to lay people off due to COVID-19 wants them back when this crisis is over. That’s why we’re only tracking temporary roles for now. Some individuals may not be eligible for unemployment insurance or this sudden layoff didn’t include severance. If there are employers just needing some temporary help, we want to bring both parties together.”

Employers who have open, temporary roles, are urged to share them with us at <https://tinyurl.com/tempPos> by noon on Tuesday, March 31. Results of this survey will be shared with workforce partners and those seeking a role. Employers looking to fill permanent roles are encouraged to post those at [jobcenterofwisconsin.com](http://jobcenterofwisconsin.com).

Snyder added, “Right now, we’re suffering a lack of information. We don’t know how long this crisis will last, if any of the individuals laid off want new jobs or if they are expecting to return to their previous employer. We also don’t know if all of these employers will still be in a hiring mood if this forced closure lasts two months or longer. Finally, we’re also trying to digest the impact the \$2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) will have once implemented.”

For more information on the Fox Valley Job Centers or the work of the Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, please visit [www.foxvalleywork.org](http://www.foxvalleywork.org) or call 920-720-5600.

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**Fox Valley Workforce Development Board (FVWDB)** is a not-for-profit building a world-class workforce in northeast Wisconsin. Serving six counties — Calumet, Green Lake, Fond du Lac, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago — FVWDB collaborates with a number of state and local workforce partners to help job seekers gain the skills needed to find employment and help businesses find the highly skilled workers they need.

*FVWDB is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider.*

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