



## Overview

The Metro North Regional Employment Board (REB) is a public-private partnership whose mission is to enable area residents to gain the skills to maximize their economic self-sufficiency and provide employers with the workforce they need to effectively compete in the changing world economy. As one of 16 local Workforce Development Boards established in Massachusetts by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (recently superseded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014), the REB was formed to: set local workforce policy, determine how state and federal funds are best used for workforce development, develop partnerships to align the needs of employers to the needs of area residents, and oversee the Metro North One-Stop Career Centers where both job search and employer services are provided. By law, business leaders must constitute a majority of the Board with other members representing education, training, labor and economic development.

The functions of the Metro North Regional Employment Board include the following:

- Addressing business' workforce needs through strategic partnership building
- Coordinating local workforce activities with economic development strategies
- Developing industry-specific consortia focusing on strategic planning and implementation
- Establishing workforce development policy for the region
- Chartering career center operators and overseeing career centers
- Matching the needs of business for skilled employees with training opportunities in the area
- Assessing the effectiveness of the local workforce system
- Administering federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds for the region

## Industry Partnerships/Consortia:

The REB leads the following industry partnerships/consortia:

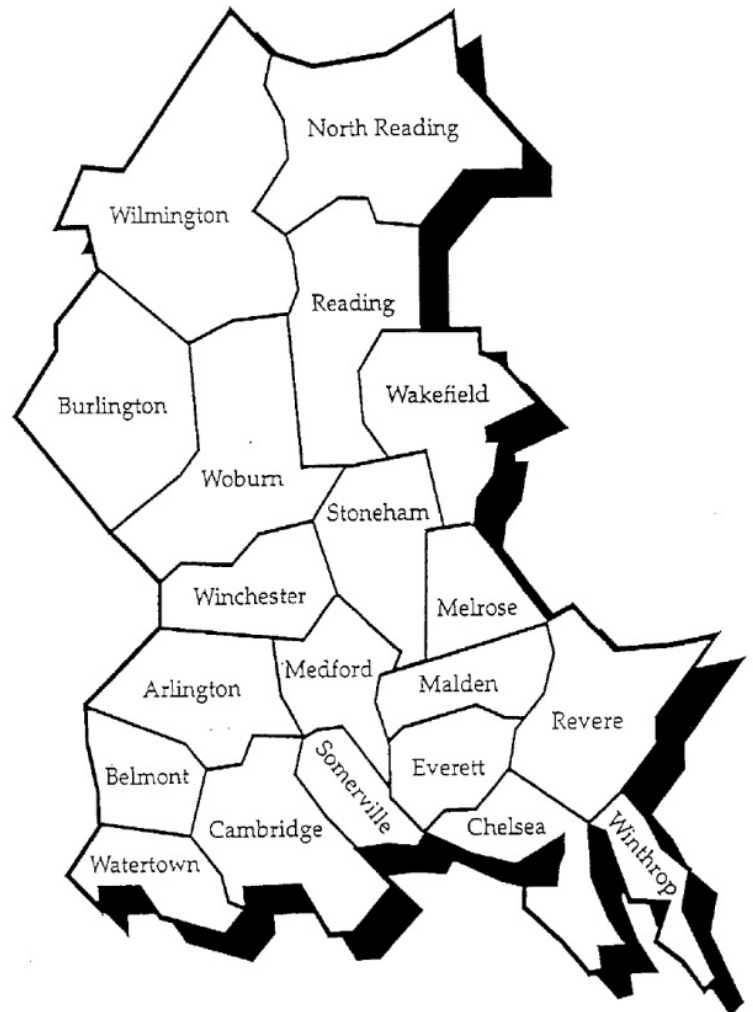
- The Metro North Retail Advisory Council
- Metro North Healthcare Partnership
- Boston/Metro North STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Network
- Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium

## Metro North One-Stop Career Centers

The REB charters the career centers to serve the 20-community Metro North region. The career centers are the front door for employers, job seekers, and workers to receive services, which include job readiness, job matching, and training. The career centers provide a diverse offering of workshops for job seekers focused on job readiness skills, such as resume writing, interviewing skills, and computer classes. The career center staff members develop expertise in the workforce needs of employers and seek to match job seekers with appropriate vacant positions based on skills and interests. The career centers manage the training vouchers and assess which job seekers can best benefit from skills training and which programs are best designed to meet labor market needs. The career centers also provide services to the region's in and out of school youth to prepare them for college and career.

**Metro North REB serves the following 20 Cities/Towns:**

<b>Service by Community of Residence Metro North Career Centers* July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017</b>	
<b>City/Town Served</b>	<b>Residents Served</b>
Arlington	552
Belmont	267
Burlington	392
Cambridge	923
Chelsea	846
Everett	459
Malden	720
Medford	607
Melrose	318
North Reading	159
Reading	347
Revere	601
Somerville	815
Stoneham	362
Wakefield	347
Watertown	337
Wilmington	332
Winchester	223
Winthrop	121
Woburn	883
<b>Metro North Residents</b>	<b>9,603</b>
<b>Non-Metro North Residents</b>	<b>5,508</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,111</b>
*The Career Place, Woburn and Career Source, Cambridge and Chelsea	



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