Workforce Investment Resources Map and Calendar

Problem Statement

Workforce investment involves programs and services spread across the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), multiple grant programs, numerous external service providers and partnerships with other state departments. Information about all of these workforce investment resources is available online. However, much of it is in stand-alone databases, spreadsheets, or reports. Job seekers, employers, and other stakeholders frequently cite difficulty in finding and relating this information in a way this is relevant to their community, region, or occupation. Policymakers are similarly challenged to understand the workforce investment system, how it benefits Alaskans, and how investments are deployed across the state.

Mapping Alaska's Workforce Investment Resources

DOLWD proposes to aggregate and relate workforce investment resources in an adaptable mapping and calendaring utility that will be featured on the Department's main web page. The mapping utility will allow users to view the workforce investment resources of their choosing and layer those resources to evaluate the reach, effectiveness, and relevancy of the workforce investment system from their need or perspective. The utility will be introduced on the DOLWD main index page, it can be called up as a static map, dynamic map, or customizable map. The calendaring feature will allow users to identify upcoming training opportunities.
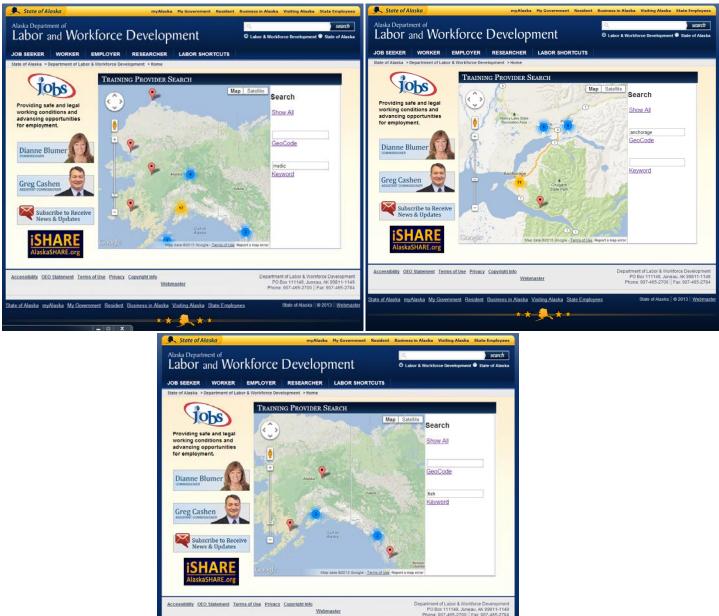
Workforce Investment Resource Datasets

The utility will consist of a base map of the state with some pre-set options such as the ARDOR regions. The Table One (attached) represents an initial list of datasets that can be geocoded to appear as separate layers when selected. The number of data points and frequency of updates will be a factor in the complexity and cost of the map. Given the potential scope of the project, it will be important to prioritize which datasets are included in the initial map as well as subsequent versions. See further discussion under Implementation.

Implementation

The State of Alaska uses many types of dynamic mapping utilities. Given the goals of producing this map quickly with limited resources, while making it widely usable across the DOLWD web pages for relatively unsophisticated users, Google Maps is the recommended solution. Google Maps is a web mapping service application. Using the Google Maps application protocol interface (API), maps are generated from geocoded datasets and rendered on the fly as web pages are accessed and mapping options are selected.

The calendaring feature will require some systemic changes in the Department's granting activities, whereby grantees will need to provide their training schedule as a part of the grant application process and/or have administrative privileges to post their training schedule.

Screen Shots

Workforce Investment Resource Datasets

Dataset	Data Points	Depiction	Task	Frequency
Eligible Training Providers	200+	Density Marker	Geocode to city, then address	Annual
Certificate/Discipline/Occupation	1,000+	TBD		Annual
Job Centers	21	Marker	Geocode to address	Annual
Regional Training Centers	11	Marker	Geocode to address	Annual
ARDOR Regions	11	Opacity Layer		Annual
Step Grants	TBD	Density Marker	Geocode to city where training takes place	Quarterly?
Step Grant Trainees	TBD	Density Marker	Geocode to home city of trainee	Quarterly?
CTE Grants	11	Marker	Geocode to city	Annually
AKCCAP Grants	7	Marker	Geocode to address	One-time
AKCCAP Trainees	TBD	Density Marker	Geocode to home city of trainee	One-time
Oil and Gas Training Grants	5	Marker	Geocode to address	Annually
Oil and Gas Trainees	75+	Density Marker	Geocode to home city of trainee	Annually
CTE Grants	11	Marker/Density Marker	Geocode to city where training takes place	Annually
Denali Training Fund	TBD	Marker	Geocode to	Quarterly
ASESP				
Youth First				
WIA Youth				
TVEP				
Veterans Services				
Registered Apprenticeship				