



On behalf of Governor Nathan Deal and Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) Commissioner Chris Carr, we would like to formally invite you to attend one of the upcoming Governor's High Demand Career Initiative (HDCI) meetings.

This year multiple business news outlets including CNBC have named Georgia the No. 1 place in the nation to do business, and it is one of Governor Deal's top priorities to ensure that this remains the case. To accomplish this we are making every effort to provide businesses, large and small, with a consistent, trained and reliable workforce. This year Governor Deal tasked GDEcD to create the HDCI, an initiative allowing those involved in training Georgia's future workforce – first and foremost the University System of Georgia (USG) and the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) – to engage the private sector regarding workforce needs.

HDCI provides a formal platform for an expanded public-private dialogue that will make certain we are meeting the workforce needs of today and the needs five to ten years down the road.

To facilitate that dialogue, we have organized a series of public meetings across the state where employers are providing state leadership with information about the education, training and skills that are in demand within their operations, focusing particularly on any workforce gaps. In response to the findings of HDCI, where it makes sense, we will rework programs and curricula and even stand up new capacity or programs where workforce shortages exist.

This initiative is yet another step toward securing not only a skilled workforce for employers, but also employers for our skilled workforce. However, for us to be successful, we need all pieces of our workforce system involved – from educators to companies to business and community organizations. The buy-in of local community leaders is an integral part of this effort, and for that reason we are requesting your attendance at an HDCI meeting so that you have the opportunity to hear from participant companies.

Thank you for all that you do to make Georgia a great place to work and live, and I hope we will see you at one of the upcoming events. A full schedule of the events is attached to this email.

For more information, please visit <http://www.georgia.org/HDCI> or contact our External Relations Director, Jamie Jordan, at [jamie.jordan@georgia.org](mailto:jamie.jordan@georgia.org).

If you plan to attend, please be sure to register by [clicking here](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Hames".

Ben Hames

*Deputy Commissioner,*

Georgia Department of Economic Development

Workforce Division