

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



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The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) was created under Executive Order 2019-13 by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to streamline and better coordinate efforts within state government to meet the state's business and labor needs by consolidating workforce and economic development functions in one department. LEO includes the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the Michigan Strategic Fund, and the Michigan Office for Global Michigan (formerly known as the Office for New Americans). LEO also houses two new commissions: the Workers' Disability Compensation Appeals Commission and the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Commission.

The **Michigan State Housing Development Authority** provides financial and technical assistance through public and private partnerships to create and preserve safe and decent affordable housing.

The **Michigan Strategic Fund** (MSF) was created by Public Act 270 of 1984 and has broad authority to promote economic development and create jobs. The MSF board has the following responsibilities:

- Approve grants and loans under the Michigan Business Development Program.
- Approve grants and loans under the Michigan Community Revitalization Program.
- Approve the use of Private Activity Revenue Bonds.
- Authorize the submittal by local units of government of Community Development Block Grant applications.
- Recommend to the State Administrative Board Agricultural Processing, Renewable Energy, and Forest Products Processing Renaissance Zone designations.
- Approve Tool and Die Renaissance Recovery Zones.
- Act as the fiduciary agent with respect to the 21st Century Jobs Fund investments.
- Pursuant to statute, the Chief Compliance Officer provides advice and guidance in regard to the 21st Century Jobs Fund.

The **Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration** protects Michigan workers by promoting workplace safety and health through outreach training services, fair enforcement, and cooperative agreements.

The **Unemployment Insurance Agency** provides temporary income to jobless workers while they are seeking employment.

The **Michigan Office of Global Michigan** helps grow Michigan's economy by attracting global talent to our state and promoting the skills, energy, and entrepreneurial spirit of our immigrant communities.

The **Workforce Development Agency's** vision is to promote a flexible, innovative, and effective workforce system within the State of Michigan.

The **Michigan Land Bank Authority** promotes economic growth in this state through the acquisition, assembly and disposal of public property, including tax reverted property, in a coordinated manner to foster the development of that property, and to promote and support land bank operations at the county and local levels.

The **Bureau of Services for Blind Persons** (BSBP) assists more than 4,500 blind and visually impaired individuals annually to achieve employment and independence, and helps employers find and retain qualified workers. BSBP serves people of all ages.

The **Workers' Compensation Agency** administers the Workers' Disability Compensation Act, which provides wage replacement, medical, and vocational rehabilitation benefits to men and women who suffer work-related injuries and disabilities. The agency also ensures compliance with the mandatory insurance provisions of the act to protect injured workers and to protect Michigan employers from unfair competition by those who are not in compliance.

Other bureaus and agencies located within LEO include the Bureau of Employment Relations, MiSTEM Network, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Nonincorporated Private Educational Institutions, the State Historic Preservation Office, Wage and Hour Division of Employment Relations, and Workforce Development.

