

# CareerSource NEFL QUARTERLY REPORT

## A. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Report quarter:** \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter 2 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of meeting:** \_\_\_\_\_ May 15, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

**Report prepared by:** \_\_\_\_\_ CareerSource NEFL \_\_\_\_\_

**Local workforce development board contact:** \_\_\_ Rebecca Livingston \_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_ May 16, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

## B. ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Industry or Education Organization	Contact Information
Scott Curry	University of North Florida	Education	Scott.Curry@unf.edu
Barb Ritter	Jacksonville University	Education	britter1@ju.edu
Mary Smith	Jacksonville Transportation Authority	Transportation & Logistics	mmsmith@jtafla.com
David Emmanuel	JEA	Industry-- Utilities	emanld@jea.com
Zoe Astra	Guidewell/Florida Blue	Life Sciences Industry	Zoe.Astra@guidewell.com
Virginie Mascia	SNI Companies	Staffing, Support Industry	vmascia@snicompanies.com

## B. SUMMARY REPORT

1. Summary analysis of the local labor market based on the industry representative needs and education offerings. (Provide summary)

- In 2024, the Business Development Team has generated 9 announcements, 725 new jobs, and over \$300 million in capital investment. Three

announcements are in Advanced Manufacturing, five are in Transportation & Logistics, and one is in Financial Services. Two examples include Publix Supermarkets in St. Johns County are opening a pharmaceutical manufacturing facility in St. Johns County that will create 400 jobs and bring in \$139 million in capital investment, as well as Pinnacle Financial Partners' in expanding into our region with the addition of a full-service retail office in Downtown Jacksonville.

- The unemployment rate in for March 2024 in Florida was 3.3%, with the Jacksonville MSA coming in at 3.4%. This rate is still very low, but it is up from 2.7% in March 2023.
- Job orders in March 2024 were 2,086. Job order trends show an interesting pattern, with current job orders per month aligned with those pre-pandemic. Rebecca noted an interesting spike in job orders during the pandemic and sighted the diversity of industry as a strength.
- The current top occupations being posted are Software Developers, Registered Nurses, Customer Service Representatives, and Retail Salespersons.

## 2. Information on priority industry sectors and occupations for the local area. (Provide summary)

- Priority industry sectors in terms of business recruitment and support industries that are expanding as a result of population and ancillary growth are all details on [jaxusa.org](http://jaxusa.org) and [earnmup.org](http://earnmup.org) websites which are referenced in each meeting (corresponding collateral materials are provided as takeaway items at meetings as well). These industries include Advanced Manufacturing, Transportation & Logistics, Technology Services, Life Sciences, Financial Services, and Corporate Operations. A variety of related occupations for each industry sector are detailed on [earnup.org](http://earnup.org).
- Support industries include Agribusiness, Construction, Education, Entrepreneurship, Real Estate, Recreation & Hospitality, Public Service, Social Services and The Arts. A variety of related occupations for each industry sector are detailed on [earnup.org](http://earnup.org).
- Current top occupations of Registered Nurses, Customer Service Representatives, and Retail Salespersons as shared by CSNEFL align with both target and support occupations.

## 3. Information on the status of existing talent pipelines for in-demand occupations. (Provide summary)

Data has shown that while regional schools are graduating individuals in needed programs, there is a capacity issue with the number of graduates being produced throughout the region. This speaks to the need for additional opportunities being brought in by the

University of Florida's Jacksonville campus. Guest speakers shared these details, which will enhance existing pipelines for graduates in growing fields in NEFL.

Programs with an anticipated fall 2025 launch include:

- Business
  - Professional MBA with AI analytics concentration
  - Masters of Science in Management—AI Concentration
- Engineering
  - Masters in Engineering Management, Data Analytics
  - Masters in Computer Science
- Design, Construction and Planning
  - Masters in Architecture
- Law
  - Masters in Study of Law

Programs with an expected '27 or '28 launch (require additional start up time)

- Health Sciences
  - Masters in AI Biomedical and Health Sciences
  - Physician Assistant Program
  - Genetic Counseling Training Program

Future Programming will also include:

- Permanent campus to include student housing to introduce rotations from Gainesville to Jacksonville.
- Semester-in-residence for professional schools.
- Combination degree programs to allow undergraduates to spend their fourth or fifth year in Gainesville.

Interdisciplinary Degrees:

- Conversations have occurred with other educational entities in the region to offer joint degrees in related fields, such as medicine and public health.
- Continuing education could be applied to programs in multiple fields. The group spoke about upskilling and reskilling workers. There is a focus on degree programming but see the appetite for upskilling.

The colleges currently in the NEFL ecosystem are producing graduates in these fields, but additional opportunities made available by the expansion of UF into the market will benefit students, job seekers and employers.