

Blake Foote

Interim CEO, Workforce Professionals Training Institute

Biography

Blake Foote has been a workforce development professional for 25 years at the local and national level. Her first role in workforce development was as a workshop facilitator and job developer for unhoused jobseekers in Oakland and Berkeley, California. While at Jobs Consortium, she managed daily operations of its Oakland office and implemented a nine-county training initiative for frontline workforce development staff. At the national level, she researched federal workforce programs for Congress at the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and launched sector-based employment programs at the National Economic Development & Law Center.

Since 2005, Foote has worked in partnership with local government, nonprofits, businesses, and foundations to improve workforce programs and influence policy in New York City. She served as executive director of the New York City Workforce Investment Board where she oversaw \$80M in federal funding and engaged over 40 board members in local workforce policy. Prior to that, Foote was an executive director at the New York City Department of Small Business Services where she supervised the City's large-scale recruitment initiatives in target industries, and she provided management support for Workforce1 Career Centers and the agency's partnerships with private foundations.

Foote has served on the Board of Workforce Professionals Training Institute for 10 years. She is also Foundation Board Chair of CUNY School of Professional Studies and an active Trustee of Brooklyn Public Library. She is a former Board member of Center for an Urban Future.

She holds a BS in International Relations from Georgetown University and a Master of Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School.