

CAREER READINESS

OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE THE BUSINESS CLIMATE

Due to the degree of Kentucky's workforce challenges, it is imperative that Northern Kentucky's K-12 and post-secondary education ecosystems have the necessary resources to deliver quality results for students and employers. The delivery of a high-quality education that addresses the individual challenges of students will help ensure their success in school and beyond. Support greater exposure to meaningful opportunities for exploration and experience in high-demand workforce sectors and planning for post-secondary education paths. This will assist with mitigating future workforce shortages and retaining a skilled future workforce that businesses depend on to be globally competitive.

APPROACH TO TACKLE THE ISSUE

- Increase student exposure to high-demand careers and workforce opportunities.
- Expand opportunities for teacher externships in high-demand careers for a stronger connection between the classroom and the workplace.
- Expand work-based learning activities, i.e., apprenticeship, youth internships, on the job training, etc.
- Elevate short-term training opportunities in conjunction with employer job placement commitments.
- Expand post-secondary partnerships and collaboration to increase dual credit/early college enrollment in the region.
- Explore innovative models to encourage adult learners to restart or complete the pathway to a degree.

WHY DOES IT MATTER TO MY BUSINESS

Innovative education measures will counteract future workforce shortages.

Early exposure to work-based learning and discovery of career paths that match student aptitudes will increase and retain a skilled talent pool of work ready adults.

WHAT WE ARE ASKING AN ELECTED OFFICIAL TO DO

- Encourage alignment of state and community resources to reduce barriers to work-based learning opportunities.
- Support programs that encourage and support students to pursue a higher education credential, degree, or certification.
- Consider innovative models that provide adult learners the opportunity to return to college to complete or restart a pathway to a degree.
- Strengthen sustainability for the Work Ready Kentucky Dual Credits Scholarships program.