Help Students Unlock the Door to Career Readiness

Providing real-world career learning opportunities is the key to success. Every student will have a unique path to the career that is the best fit for them. Whatever path they take, the goal is that all paths lead to a fulfilling and meaningful career.

As workforce learning experiences expand, many schools and districts are working to help students connect the dots to their eventual career goals. The need to connect students to local workforce opportunities has grown due to the current skills gap in the economy.

Trends in Career Readiness

Students begin to connect the dots to their eventual career throughout middle school and early high school. Trends in career readiness show that students begin to connect the dots to their eventual career throughout middle school and early high school.

Perceived Student Obstacles

When asked what obstacles they may face in achieving their career goals, the top student concerns were:

- 6.1M jobs are unfilled
- 61% of employers face challenges filling skilled worker vacancies
- 8M workers lack necessary credentials

Student's Career Pathway Aspirations

When asked what pathways they will take to reach their career aspirations, students stated:

- 66% Planned to attend a 4-year college
- 12% Planned to attend a 2-year college and then transfer to a 4-year college
- 6% Planned to attend a community or technical college
- 8% Planned to join the military and then attend a 2/4-year college
- 12% Have other aspiration or are uncertain of the path they would take

Preparing Students With Real-World Career Learning

To ensure students have the skills and preparation to enter the workforce after their chosen pathway, schools and districts can:

- Help students identify their strengths and interests
- Provide students tools to access and understand who they are
- Make career learning opportunities as real-world as possible
- Get creative when providing experimental career learning
- Connect students with local employers to experience job shadows, internships, etc.

Students' Desired Career Learning Opportunities

However, 81% of students state that they would like access to more real-world learning opportunities, like internships.

- 55% Apprenticeships
- 41% Career Fairs
- 48% Job Shadows
- 66% Field Trips to COs
- 68% Job Shadows

Preparing Students With Real-World Career Learning

To learn more, download the white paper Trends in CCLR.

Get creative when providing experimental career learning

Connect career instruction and postsecondary data

Help students identify their strengths and interests

Connect students with local employers to experience job shadows, internships, field trips, etc.

To learn more, download the white paper Trends in CCLR.