



Grants and Career Launch Endorsement

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Want to get more involved? Here's how:

- Need support to start a program? Watch for the request for proposals (RFP) release for program intermediaries
- Want to increase career-connected learning in your region? Attend upcoming regional network convenings
- Know a program that fits our Career Launch criteria? Apply for endorsement

Program intermediaries bridge connections between industry and educators to help create and scale programs.

Key Roles: Program Intermediaries work within and across regions to partner with multiple employers, labor partners, and educational institutions (within K-12 and postsecondary) to:

- Develop curricula for new and innovative programs, and scale existing career awareness and exploration, career preparation, and endorsed career launch programs
- Convene industry and educators to define career connected learning opportunities and align on needs
- Generate demand with young adults and families

Leadership: Program intermediaries can take many forms including (but not limited to):

- New or existing industry associations
- Joint labor management councils
- Regional networks
- Career technical student organizations
- Postsecondary education and training institutions
- Other community-based organizations and expanded learning partners
- State agencies

Support: RFP will be released in mid-July via Washington Electronic Bidding System (WEBS) for a grant program to support program intermediaries in developing new and scaling existing career connected learning programs. We encourage applicants to develop Career Launch programs. Successful applicants must demonstrate:

- Status as a trusted partner of industry and education stakeholders
- Track record of success with career connected learning and aligned initiatives
- Commitment to equity
- Other requirements as stipulated by the RFP

Regional networks are the key to scaling statewide.

Key Roles: Regional Networks convene and manage regional, cross-industry partnerships that will lead to the expansion of career connected learning opportunities.

- Develop regional plans to grow career connected learning opportunities
- Serve as career connected learning navigators for region (to industry, educators, counselors)
- Work with educators and industry to develop and scale programs
- Consolidate regional data and report key learnings to state-level
- Convene regional players including employers, labor, education, workforce council, intermediaries, relevant non-profit organizations

Leadership: Regional network leads can take many forms including (but not limited to):

- Workforce Development Councils
- Local STEM networks
- Educational service districts
- Chambers of commerce
- Economic development councils
- Nonprofit organizations
- School districts
- Higher education institutions
- Industry associations
- Joint labor management councils
- Multi-employer training partnerships

Support: RFP will be released in mid-July via Washington Electronic Bidding System (WEBS) for a grant program to support regional networks. Proposal may be sought within the geographic areas of the nine educational service districts. Successful applicants must demonstrate:

- Regional knowledge
- Status as a trusted partner of industry and education stakeholders
- Track record of success with career connected learning and aligned initiatives
- Commitment to equity
- Other requirements as stipulated by the RFP

Career Launch Endorsement Process to be opened summer 2019

The purpose of the endorsement process is not to evaluate or “score” programs, but to ensure each program meets the standards of the Career Launch definition. Endorsed Career Launch programs will be listed in the Career Launch student directory and be eligible to receive enhanced enrollment funding through the K-12 Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Community and Technical College (CTC) systems.

Career Launch program application has three parts:

- Program checklist
- Industry checklist
- Academic checklist

A small team will review applications quarterly to endorse Career Launch programs:

- Education stakeholders from K-12, Career and Technical College (CTC) system, and 4-year institutions
- Industry (employers and/or labor when appropriate)
- Governor's office / CCW Team
- An "open chair" for additional experts, leaders as needed for specific Career Launch programs

Membership to vary based on Career Launch applications received and feedback provided as process is scaled up.