Overview and updates

Updated: June 2024
Welcome!

What is Career Connect Washington?

Business, labor, education, and community leaders who are creating work-based and academic programs for young people to explore, learn, and earn money or college level credit.

Career Connect Washington bridges the gap between employers and educators by providing the connection, funding, and support they need to deliver high quality academic and work-based experiences for Washington students, especially those furthest from opportunity.
The Problem: Students lack sufficient pathways to great careers

Goal: Connect young people to great careers while advancing their education

- Percent of Washington students gaining a credential or degree beyond high school: 40%
- Percent of Washington jobs requiring a postsecondary credential: 70%
The Reality Today: Disconnected pathways between education and employment

Education
(K-12 and Postsecondary)

Employment
The Solution: Career connected learning is a braided pathway that connects students to the career opportunities around them, starting early in their schooling.
The Solution: Connected pathways require a connected system

Employment

Government

Industry

Employers

Labor

Education

K-12

Higher Education

(incl. CTC, 4-Year)

CCW provides the connective tissue to grow CCL programs statewide
CCW Vision and Principles
To reach our vision and ambition, we need a comprehensive system that follows a set of core principles.

**SYSTEM DESIGN PRINCIPLES…**

- **SCALABLE**
- **EQUITABLE**
- **‘AND’ NOT ‘OR’**
- **EASY TO NAVIGATE**
- **PERMEABLE**
- **DYNAMIC & INNOVATIVE**
- **CHOICE-BASED**
- **BUILT FROM THE BEST**

**…AND PROGRAM DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

- Provide **positive ROI for employers**; built on skills and competencies **defined by employer**
- Be **high-quality** and lead to positive outcomes for young adults
- Leverage modern **digitally-connected tools**

**TAILORED TO THE REGION**

**BUILT FOR THE STATE…**

**…TAILORED TO THE REGION**

**CAREER CONNECT WASHINGTON**
CCW’s Vision is to ensure equitable CCL access and outcomes for Washington students

Every young adult in Washington will have multiple pathways toward economic self-sufficiency and fulfillment, strengthened by a comprehensive state-wide system for career connected learning.

In order for every young adult to succeed, we must intentionally focus on populations furthest from opportunity especially students of color, Indigenous students, low-income students, rural students, and students with disabilities.

We acknowledge that systemic racism has held students back, especially Black and Indigenous students, and we aspire to build an anti-racist system for career connected learning.
Equity Measurement

Race, income, geography, gender, citizenship status, and other demographics and student characteristics will no longer predict the outcomes of Washington’s students.

Career Connect Washington will build a career connected learning system that enables students who participate in Career Explore, Career Prep, and Career Launch to complete programs, attain sustaining-wage entry-level jobs, and reach family-sustaining wage careers (across industries and occupations) at equitable rates across population demographics.

Achieving this goal means that CCW will build a system that ensures that every young adult:

• Has **equitable access** to Career Connect Washington programs, including Career Explore, Career Prep, and Career Launch

• Is **enrolling in and completing** Career Launch programs at equitable rates across population demographics

• Is **entering living wage careers or college level learning** after their Career Launch programs at equitable rates
### Detail: 5-part strategy to advance equity in career connected learning

| Data | Identify system, resource, and outcome gaps by region, measure progress and outcomes against equity goals, and provide transparent and timely updates to stakeholders. |
| Technology | Connect students and families to existing programs and wraparound supports via the CCW program directory. Advocate for internet and technological access for students. |
| Student Supports | Implement policy and legislative changes to lower barriers to participation and completion for students furthest from opportunity. |
| Provide Best Practices | Develop professional toolkits and guides to support CCW partners in identifying and addressing equity challenges. Solutions will be informed by community relationships and tailored to achieve equity goals. |
| System Accountability | Measure performance of system partners including state agencies, regional networks, and intermediaries against agreed upon equity goals and outcomes. |
We are building the infrastructure to create new and grow existing CCL programs

**Definition**

Work-based programs with aligned classroom learning that culminate in a postsecondary credential*, producing a competitive candidate for meaningful employment (includes Registered Apprenticeship programs)

**Career Launch**

Career-specific instruction at a worksite or in a classroom for academic credit

**Career Prep**

Early exposure opportunities to careers and career options (e.g. career fairs, worksite tours)

**Career Explore**

*Postsecondary credential means certificate, or at least one year towards an associates or bachelor’s degree
Career Launch definition

Career Launch Programs: Positioning young adults for promising careers

- Meaningful, high quality on-the-job experience
  - At worksite
  - Paid and academic credit
  - Occupation-aligned
  - Employer supervisor at ratio typical of occupation
  - Defined competencies and skills gained
  - Full compliance with existing legal regulations

- Aligned classroom learning
  - Curriculum and program requirements developed in partnership with employers and industry
  - Aligned with academic and employer standards
  - Qualified instructors
  - Dedicated student support (academic and career)

- Competitive candidate
  - Able to continue in employment OR successfully compete for jobs leading to financially-sustainable and fulfilling careers

- Valuable credential beyond high school diploma
  - Credential attained
  - Significant progress (at least one year) towards a 2- or 4-year credential
**Quality Control:** Industry and Education-led endorsement process for Career Launch

Career Launch Programs will be endorsed in a rigorous CCW-led process including:

- **Industry-validated** (e.g. students work-ready, critical mass of employers participating, valued across industry, high-potential career pathway)
- **Academically-validated** (e.g. state-wide recognition and transferability, aligned with high-quality academic standards)
- Endorsement will be reviewed every three years

Only endorsed Career Launch Programs will have access to increased support (including capacity funding) and count towards CCW goal.

Career Launch endorsement applications reviewed monthly

Endorsement application available on [CCW Website](#)

- Programs can be offered through the community and technical colleges, training centers, universities and K-12 schools that partner with higher-education institutions
- Further information regarding K-12 Career Launch 1.2 FTE funding available via [slides](#) and [webinar](#)
**Ambition:** Enable all WA young adults to experience career connected learning

### System Goals

- **Career Launch (CL):**
  - 60% of the Class of 2030 enrolls in a CL program before age 30 and completes.

- **Career Prep (CP):**
  - 100% CP, CE completion for Class of 2030

- **Career Explore (CE):**

### Leading Indicators

- **Career Launch completion rate**
  - Completion by sub-group (e.g., region, industry, demographic)
  - No. of young adults enrolled
  - No. of employers participating
  - Registered apprenticeship growth

- **CP, CE completion rate**
  - Completion by sub-group (e.g., region, industry, demographic)
  - No. of young adult experiences (including by experience type)
  - No. of employers participating

### Long-Term Success

- **WA % unemployment** (relative to other states)
- **70% credential attainment** (for Class of 2030)
- **x2 growth in registered apprenticeships**
- **WA median wage increase**
- **WA GDP increase**
CCW’s impact by the numbers

16,000

Nearly 16,000 students enrolled in Career Launch programs
(data from July 2022 – June 2023)¹

6,983

Cumulative Career Launch completions by students enrolled before age 30
(data from July 2019 – June 2023)¹

183

New Career Launch programs created
• Of which 70+ are Registered Apprenticeships
(data from July 2019 – June 2023)

$29.2M

Good Jobs Challenge (Dept. of Commerce): $23.5M over three years to grow career connected learning programs

Apprenticeship Building America (Dept. of Labor): $5.7M over four years to grow Registered and Pre-Apprenticeships

¹ Apprenticeship enrollment and completion is subject to change up to 3 years after report date. Includes active state Registered Apprenticeships and Career Launch students; Apprenticeship numbers reflect total growth, influenced by a variety of factors, including economic expansion prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
32% growth in Career Launch programs (inclusive of RA) since implementation of CCW legislation – growth continued despite pandemic and related challenges

Career Launch participation (#)

- ~3,800 additional CL participants since start of CCW, of which:
  - ~2,500 within Career Launch Endorsed programs
  - ~1,300 within Registered Apprenticeships

CL endorsed enrollment and completion data provided by SBCTC available through March 2023, all other enrollment data is available through June 2023. Apprenticeship enrollment and completion is subject to change up to 3 years after report date.; Participation includes only those under 30 years old; Registered Apprenticeship (CL-RA) numbers reflect total growth, influenced by a variety of factors including economic expansion prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
CCW making early progress against long-term goal

Number students concurrently enrolled in CL programs each year to reach 60% completion in Career Launch before age 30

- Peak total enrollment in 2037-38 (~192k students concurrently enrolled in CL Programs)
- Annual 18% growth in new enrollees required by 2037-38
- 29% growth in the first 4 years
- Double new enrollees by 2028-29

Enrollment of students under 30 years old as of December 2022; Participation includes only those under 30 years old; Registered Apprenticeship (CL-RA) numbers reflect total growth, influenced by a variety of factors including economic expansion prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Why we know we can reach the enrollment goal

Demand from students, teachers, counselors, parents and families

Demand from employers

CCW infrastructure established; track record of success at achieving rapid scale
CCW has worked over the past several years to fill gaps and build connective tissue to help experts work together towards our shared vision.
How CCW is organized
CCW Coalition of Partners: CCW Agency, Industry, and Equity Partners

CCW Cross-Agency Work Group

CCW Public-Private Leadership Team

Business & Philanthropy Leaders

Labor Leaders

Equity Advisory Network

Governor’s Office

WA Legislature

Convened by Washington Roundtable

Convened by WA State Labor Council

Convened by Washington STEM
CCW Public-Private Leadership Team

- Kimberly Hetrick, Director of CCW
  - Coordinates cross-agency workgroup
  - Builds and strengthens connective tissue across state government

- Andrew Clemons, CCW Manager
  - Administers the grant program in state law
  - Manages grants to regional networks, sector leaders, program builders, and partners
  - Implements federal grant projects to scale programming

- Ingrid Stegemoeller, Industry Engagement Director
  - Cultivating employer demand and champions in partnership with AWB and WSLC

- Angie Mason-Smith, Program Director, Career Pathways
  - Trusted statewide partner to lead implementation and technical assistance in the field
  - Competitively-awarded, long-term contract
  - Role currently supported by Washington STEM
CCW future leadership: a public-private partnership

**WEIA Board**

*Provides oversight and maintains system accountability*

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**Lead gov’t entity**

Grant making

Supports CCW goals and agency partners, works closely with business and labor champions and implementation partner

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**Leadership outside government**

Business and Labor Champions provide oversight, accountability, engagement and advocacy

Implementation partner coaches, mentors and acts as sounding board for all engaged in building programs

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*Role currently served by Washington STEM – this role will be competitively procured for July*
CCW Program Directory
CCW Program Directory: CareerConnectWA.org/Directory/

Are you interested in real-world learning?
Check out programs combining real-world skills and classroom learning for young people in Washington.

Search by Occupation, School, or Title
Enter City, County, or Zip Code
Search
Users search programs by their interest or location

Features:

• Users can search by:
  o Type of program: Explore, Prep, or Launch
  o Area of interest, occupation, or keyword
  o Geographic location
  o Hourly wage range
  o Educational Institution or Skill Center

• Connected to a directory of student support services
• Mobile device-friendly
• Embeddable on partners’ websites
• Tested by students, teachers, counselors and feedback used to improve features

Example of search results of career connected learning programs in Pasco, WA
Integrated database of student support services

Automotive Technicians
Automotive Technology

509-662-6614 | Visit Program Website | jwalter@wvc.edu

Program Information

Minimum Requirements
High School Diploma or Equivalent

Other Requirements
Must have a valid driver's license

Tags
Accessible by Public Transportation
Financial Aid Available

Locations

Operating in the Following Counties
Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan

Institutions
- Wenatchee Valley College

Resources to Help You

Financial Assistance
Find financial assistance options to help pay for school and everyday needs.

Transportation
Find services in your area that can help you pay for transit.

View Info
### Integrated database of student support services

**What do you need help with?**

- Food
- Housing
- Goods
- Transit
- Health
- Money
- Care
- Education
- Work
- Legal

**Enter Zip Code**

99012

**Search**

**Apply Filters**

**Services**

**Education**

- Help Find School (1)
- Basic Literacy (1)
- Help Pay for School (1)
- Computer Class (1)
- More Education (5)
- English as a Second Language (ESL) (1)
- Daily Life Skills (1)
- Alternative Education (1)
- Resume Development (1)

**Global Neighborhood**

*Global Neighborhood*

Global Neighborhood program provides former refugees with opportunities for employment, ESL classes, assist with drivers education and computer skills training and also offer encouragement, advice and support.

**Greenhouse Community Center**

*Greenhouse Community Center*

GreenHouse Community Center focuses on providing services to people in need. Our first priority is ensuring basic needs are met by distributing food and clothing. Our second priority is helping people move forward by equipping them with education, job skills and providing counseling opportunities. Lastly, it is always a pleasure to provide nonessential items, such as school supplies and Christmas...