

Washington's young people are seeking career connected learning opportunities like job shadows, internships, and apprenticeships. Washington's economy needs competitive candidates for real jobs in our state: over the next decade the vast majority of job openings will continue to require postsecondary credentials - degrees, apprenticeships, and industry-aligned certificates and licenses.

Career Connect Washington's (CCW) statewide education and employer network is rapidly growing to meet these demands, supporting high-quality academic and work-based experiences with a focus on students who are furthest from opportunity.

Now is the time to protect the progress we have made in providing young people pathways to family-sustaining careers.



## Funding for CCW:

1. Enables young people to connect directly to education and training, credentials, and careers.
2. Offers employers sustainable, diverse talent pools.
3. Directly impacts schools, community and technical colleges, universities, apprenticeship programs, labor unions, and community-based organizations that utilize grant funds to create equitable career connected learning opportunities for their students.



**"The program is the best thing that has happened, I love it, it is the best thing that has happened in my life."**

Erick Garcia,  
Ironworkers Apprentice

**75%** of Washington job openings over the next decade are projected to require postsecondary credentials, and today only 40% of Washington students earn a credential beyond high school.

**86%** of Washington voters say it is important that Washington state supports career connected learning programs and apprenticeship opportunities.

**85%** of Washington voters say it is important for kids and young adults to learn about possible career paths in elementary and middle school.



Hear from students about how career connected learning has changed their lives.

[bit.ly/3YRtPrg](https://bit.ly/3YRtPrg)



Learn more about how employers see the benefits of career connected learning in this example from the FredHutch LabLaunch program.

[bit.ly/4fyRVww](https://bit.ly/4fyRVww)

## Progress Milestones



**115** Career Launch programs created since 2019

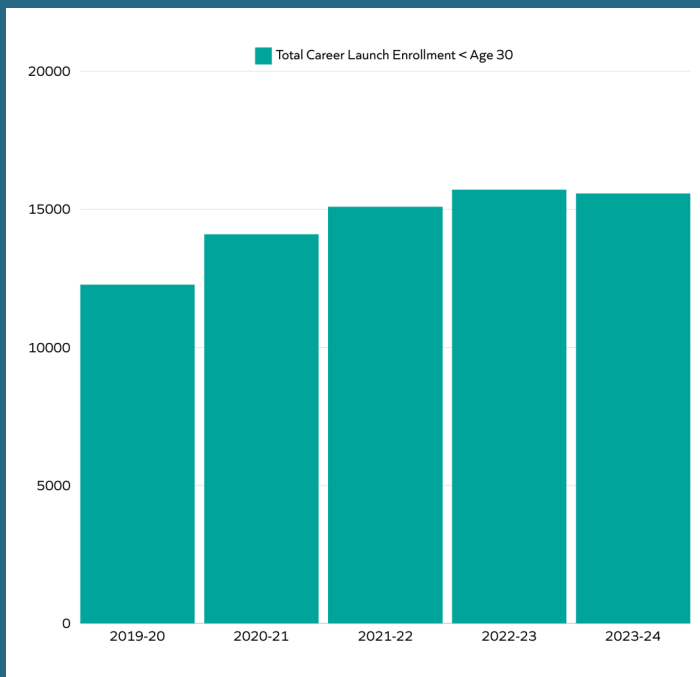


**8,424** Career Launch completions since 2019

Participation in Career Launch programs has grown **28%** since implementation of CCW legislation in 2019, despite the pandemic and related challenges.

**15,578** young people enrolled in Career Launch opportunities in the 2023-2024 school year including **12,653** registered apprentices, earning paid work-site experience and achieving valuable credentials beyond high school.

**162** program builder grants awarded to build 183 career connected learning programs across the continuum including **38 registered apprenticeships** since 2019.



“We’ve learned a lot about real world situations: professionalism, responsibility, taking ownership of your actions, like an actual job would look for.”

Wendy Delgado, Career Launch student, Sno-Isle TECH Skills Center