



# Designing and Implementing Quality Work-Based Learning Systems

Revisiting the Collaborative Workshop for States and Districts in Savannah, Georgia

September 24–25, 2018

## CCRS Center Resources

States and districts across the country are increasingly seeking to expand access to WBL experiences as a strategy to improve student college and career readiness. The resources described below are available from the CCRS Center and will assist states and districts as they work to implement WBL and other college and career readiness initiatives designed to address employability skills, career pathways, the Every Student Succeeds Act, and data and assessments. To learn more about the CCRS Center and its resources, visit [www.ccrscenter.org](http://www.ccrscenter.org) or contact Ellen Cushing, Deputy Director, at [ecushing@air.org](mailto:ecushing@air.org).

## Work-Based Learning



### **Work-Based Learning Definitions: Themes From States and National Organizations**—

There is no universally accepted definition of WBL; however, a strong definition can help ensure that students participate in high-quality work-based learning experiences. This resource includes definitions of work-based learning from state education agencies, departments of labor or workforce development, and national organizations and discusses common themes across the definitions.



### **Using Geographic Information Systems to Support Equitable Work-Based Learning Planning and Implementation**—

State education agencies often develop one-size-fits-all WBL policies that may not consider *place effects*—i.e., the advantages and disadvantages that one inherits simply by living in a particular location. Geographic information systems (GIS) allow states to develop policies and strategies that accommodate place-based differences and address potential inequities in opportunity. This resource introduces GIS and how it can support equitable WBL planning and implementation.



### **Developing Work-Based Learning Maps: Data Sets, Indicators, and Sources**—

WBL maps are created using GIS software that can layer diverse data sets atop one another. Users working to answer essential WBL questions can thoughtfully select data sets to identify factors that will support WBL efforts. This resource highlights data sets and indicators that have been used to build and populate WBL maps to address essential WBL questions.



### **Essential Questions: Using Geographic Information System Maps to Inform Work-Based Learning Decisions**

The settings in which individuals live and learn have a dramatic impact on their access to high-quality education, workforce training, and employment. State and local education leaders need to consider these place effects as they help districts and schools develop WBL systems across diverse contexts. This resource is a collection of essential WBL questions that state agency partners can answer using GIS mapping data.

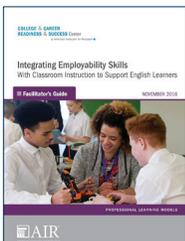


**What Are Work-Based Learning Intermediaries?**—Effectively managing WBL requires substantial coordination to ensure that students have access to high-quality WBL opportunities. An intermediary can help support WBL that spans the boundaries of state, regional, and local institutions, sectors, and agencies. This resource defines the role of intermediaries as individuals and organizations.

## Employability Skills and Career Pathways



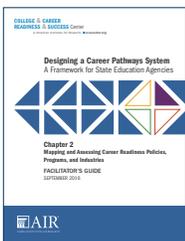
**Integrating Employability Skills: A Framework for All Educators**—Learn how to integrate and prioritize employability skills at the state and local levels with our professional learning module. This interactive module includes a collection of presentation slides and handouts, a sample agenda, a workbook, tools, and a facilitator’s guide.



**Integrating Employability Skills With Classroom Instruction to Support English Learners**—Discover how to develop employability skills for English learners with this supplemental professional learning module.



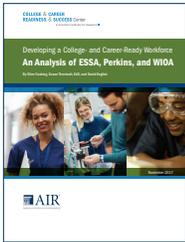
**Career Pathways Initiatives**—What should states interested in career pathways consider in choosing from current models? This brief highlights national and regional career pathways initiatives and provides lessons learned for states developing and implementing a career pathways system.



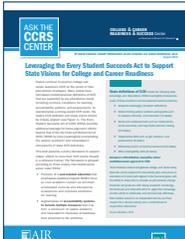
### **Designing a Career Pathways System: A Framework for State Education Agencies**

A career pathways system is a coordinated system of programs and services supporting students in the transition from school to the workforce, and it can be one part of a comprehensive system to support students’ college and career readiness. This four-chapter module is intended to help state education agencies design, implement, and evaluate a career pathways system. Each chapter includes a facilitator’s guide, slide presentation, and activity handouts.

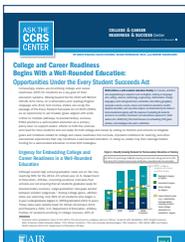
## Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)



**Developing a College- and Career-Ready Workforce: An Analysis of ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA**—ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA provide opportunities for states to develop a coherent approach to ensuring that today’s students are prepared for tomorrow’s careers and workforce demands. This resource includes a brief, a workbook, and an interactive tool to help state and local education agencies identify opportunities to align and leverage policies, programs, and funding in ESSA, Perkins, and WIOA.



**Leveraging the Every Student Succeeds Act to Support State Visions for College and Career Readiness**—ESSA provides an opportunity for states to operationalize their college and career readiness vision in support of the act’s key tenets. This brief provides a policy framework to help states align their college and career readiness definitions with relevant policy provisions under ESSA in order to build a single, cohesive strategy.

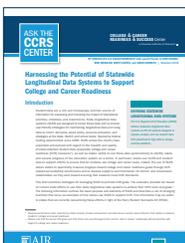


**College and Career Readiness Begins With a Well-Rounded Education: Opportunities Under the Every Student Succeeds Act**—ESSA’s “well-rounded education” provision provides an opportunity for states to operationalize their college and career readiness vision. This brief describes how states can develop and implement their own definitions of a well-rounded education focused on improving college and career readiness.

## Data and Assessments



**Designing Assessments for College and Career Readiness: Performance Tasks**—Performance tasks are one way to assess students’ college and career readiness because they require students to produce authentic work that demonstrates their mastery of specific skills and content. This video explores how educators can design and score performance tasks and connects performance tasks with other education initiatives, including competency-based education, deeper learning, and employability skills.



**Harnessing the Potential of Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems to Support College and Career Readiness**—Statewide longitudinal data systems (SLDS) offer states a potentially powerful tool to observe trends, assess needs, and develop and refine policies that can promote college and career readiness initiatives aligned with the requirements of ESSA. In this brief, we discuss strategies for leveraging SLDS to promote state-defined college and career readiness goals.

## College and Career Readiness



**The College and Career Readiness and Success Organizer**—The Organizer is a graphic that displays a consolidated overview of the many elements that impact a student’s ability to succeed in college and careers at both the institutional and individual levels. It is intended to be a comprehensive visual representation of the complexities of college and career readiness and success.



**CCRS Organizer Scorecard**—Unsure of what college and career readiness areas your state or district needs to strengthen so all students receive a well-rounded education as required by ESSA? The CCRS Organizer Scorecard allows you to self-assess your college and career readiness efforts and find resources specific to your needs.



**CCRS Interactive State Map**—The CCRS Interactive State Map presents the broad landscape of college and career readiness. The map provides a snapshot of key college and career readiness policies, including college- and career-ready definitions, metrics, and programs and structures.



### COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS & SUCCESS Center

at American Institutes for Research ■

**ABOUT THE CCRS CENTER** | The College and Career Readiness and Success Center provides technical assistance through actionable and differentiated services and resources that support implementation of states’ college and career readiness and success initiatives. As one of seven federally funded content centers, our primary audiences are the 15 regional comprehensive centers and the state education agencies they serve.

**If you have any questions** about this Ask the CCRS Center Brief, please contact us at [ccrscenter@air.org](mailto:ccrscenter@air.org).

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