

Overview of the Moving Pathways Forward Project

Project Background

Building upon the successes and lessons learned from earlier federal and state investments in career pathways, the *Moving Pathways Forward: Supporting Career Pathways Integration* project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) assists states in advancing career pathways systems to transition low-skilled adults to postsecondary education and employment. The project provides technical assistance to states to further integrate adult education into broader career pathways systems development at the state and local levels. The project addresses barriers to the implementation of cross-system policies that support transitions for adult learners into postsecondary education and employment. States' work in this project will align with the provisions in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in building effective adult education and workforce development systems and services. *Moving Pathways Forward* supports state and local activities to create career pathways systems involving business; career and technical, adult, and postsecondary education; and workforce and economic development. Additionally, the project provides an information service to better connect all stakeholders to career pathways resources and events through the Career Pathways Exchange.

Technical Assistance Services for States

Moving Pathways Forward provides technical assistance services to assist states in accelerating the development and implementation of their career pathways systems.

States have access to guidance and resources to support their work in implementing the key components of a career pathways system, including:

- Building Interagency Partnerships;
- Identifying Sector or Industry and Engaging Employers;
- Providing Education and Training Programs;
- Identifying Funding Needs and Sources;
- Aligning Policies and Programs;
- Measuring System Change and Evaluating Performance; and
- Conducting Public Relations and Ongoing Communication.

The project provides two forms of technical assistance to states:

1. Intensive Technical Assistance to selected state inter-agency teams. These state teams, representing adult, career and technical, and postsecondary education; workforce and economic development; and business, are guided by state coaches and subject matter experts in expanding their existing career pathways system components or developing new system components. Assistance is provided through telephone conferences, webinars, site visits, and email. Participating states include: Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

2. Virtual Technical Assistance to states not receiving intensive technical assistance. The project team offers virtual mentoring support to states to examine their current activities in career pathways implementation and identify priority components of career pathways systems for further development.

Career Pathways Exchange

The Career Pathways Exchange is an information service that consolidates and distributes career pathways-related information, events, and resources from federal and state agencies and a growing list of partner organizations. The Career Pathways Exchange streamlines information from multiple outlets to facilitate a deeper national dialogue on career pathways systems development and implementation.

To subscribe to the Career Pathways Exchange or complete a partner organization interest form, visit:

<http://lincs.ed.gov/programs/movingpathways/career-pathways-exchange>.

Subscribers will receive information about the following career pathways interest areas:

- Building Cross-agency Partnerships
- Identifying Industry Sectors and Engaging Employers
- Designing Education and Training Programs
- Identifying Funding Needs and Sources
- Aligning Policies and Programs
- Measuring System Change and Performance

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