

K12 Career Development Updates

1. CTE & Academic & Career Planning Foundations

The primary goal of Pathways Wisconsin is to Increase the number of students completing high quality career pathways,

So what exactly are Pathways? We are actually building on the great work, started by DWD and the technical colleges, to build seamless and integrated connections, in high demand industry sectors, **from high school to a VARIETY of postsecondary options such as entry level work, apprenticeship, military, technical college AND university.**

A Pathways Wisconsin K12 career pathway is a pathway, or series, of education & training options that **include an employer informed outline of HS Academic AND CTE courses, dual credit, work-based learning, and entry level certification** to prepare a high school student for a chosen career.

While ACP honors student informed choices for career exploration & development, Pathways Wisconsin provides a ready-made plan for those student who KNOW they want to embark on a pathway THAT IS ALSO in high demand!

2. School Accountability Metrics

Starting with the 2018-19 school year, the school data collection system is expanded to include specific career readiness metrics, previously collected through manual spreadsheets, as well as college and career readiness data now required by the 2017 state budget.

These new indicators require DPI to annually report the following college and career ready (CCR) data:

- the number and percent of pupils attending a course through the Early College Credit Program (*Dual Enrollment*);
- the number and percent of pupils participating in a Youth Apprenticeship (*WBL*);
- the number of pupils earning industry-recognized credentials (*IRC*);
- the number of Advanced Placement courses offered to, and AP credits earned by, pupils (*College Credit*)

In some cases, the text of the law is specific – and limiting. For example, the dual-enrollment requirement specifically references the Early College Credit Program, which does not include dual enrollment in technical colleges. DPI plans to collect data on all dual enrollment opportunities offered by districts, not just the Early College Credit Program. This also applies to all work-based learning programs, not just YA.

Furthermore, a new Regional Career Pathway indicator is designated for schools that are currently in the pilot regions. Regional Directors and local schools will be working together this winter to provide feedback to DPI on how best to identify students participating in these state endorsed, HSHD pathways.

3. Inspire Wisconsin

Since October 2, students throughout Wisconsin now have access to additional career development and mentorship tools starting as early as sixth grade in a platform that directly connects local employers to students, **thanks to a new statewide collaboration.**

School districts throughout the state have been using a web-based platform called Inspire that connects directly to their ACP software portfolio in Career Cruising. Inspire connects area businesses to their future talent pool through online profiles, virtual career coaches, and career-based online learning activities for students and educators.

Under the new collaboration, instead of **only having access to local and regional** businesses, Wisconsin students, educators and businesses will be able to connect with each other regardless of their location in the state in a secure, web-based environment.

That means more than 230,000 students and 16,000 educators now have access to the following resources statewide:

- More than 1,600 career coaches
- More than 1,200 company profiles
- Nearly 5,800 career exploration & development activities

Employers can learn about and register for the Inspire deployment in their region and statewide at **inspirewisconsin.org**.

4. Piloting a NEW Pathways Process- 1st Pathway Published!

The Pathways Wisconsin process has evolved since the grant was awarded in January 2017. The four pilot regions are still the foundation of quality partnerships, facilitated by an independent regional director; however, employer input regarding in demand career ladders, entry level skill sets, and hireable certifications now occurs in a brief series of short term meetings with interested stakeholders from across the state!

Once a high demand pathway is outlined, it is then published into a set of educational building blocks that the regions can use to specify their local articulations and partnerships for transitions into entry level work, apprenticeships, the local technical college and regional universities. IN addition, the regional collaboratives act as critical partnerships to identify and address barriers to access in the regional area. Schools use these materials to developing advising tools for use with students who show an interest in these specific pathways as identified through the ACP activities at their school.

We are pleased to announce the publication of our first state endorsed industry pathway in Nursing/Direct Patient Care. Construction will follow soon with meetings to be set up for Manufacturing and IT career ladders later this winter. If you are a business that is interested in participating, please leave your name and contact information with the regional director at your location today!

At this point, we are heading back to the individual regional locations for a break and presentation about pathway implementations in your area. Please be back promptly at 10:58 am for our next Keynote presenters who will discuss the Next Generation Workforce!