

# CAREER READINESS COLLABORATIVE

## Get to Know Us

We are a diverse group of innovative thinkers including state education leaders such as deputies overseeing career pathways, career and technical education state directors, state business and industry leaders, and representatives from higher education. Expect to join a professional learning community that encourages honest and open dialogue about challenges, successes, lessons learned, and plans for continuous improvement. Our goal is for every student to have access to high-quality career pathways and opportunities that culminate in a credential, degree, or skills that are highly valued by the labor market.

## Benefits of Our Collaborative

At our invitation-only virtual and in-person events, you'll join fellow experts to solve some of the most pressing challenges in the field of career readiness. These peer groups create a space for you to showcase your thought leadership and solve challenges. Members have the benefit of working in cross-sector teams, which include business and industry, higher education, labor and commerce departments, and workforce development which unlocks a truly holistic approach to meeting your state's goals. Last year, we made significant progress in creating state plans for career readiness:

- Our members completed an equity needs assessment, an honest reflection of the career preparation system as it stands in their state, pinpointing the areas of state success and opportunity.
- With input and support from the team, each state submitted Perkins V plans and engaged in comprehensive local needs assessments.

## Our Focus in 2020-2021

We'll be laser-focused on the response to COVID-19, providing intensive support to districts, schools, teachers, and parents to provide high-quality virtual career-readiness support, and on addressing restart and recovery efforts in schools. Our members will lead the charge to identify and disseminate best practices surrounding increased virtual work-based learning, virtual skills development, and virtual internships during COVID-19 restrictions. This will include best practices on student credit attainment and recovery, FAFSA supports, graduation, post-secondary preparation, and other items critical to successful student transitions. You'll also create a career readiness equity action plan with stakeholders, experts, and state leadership that you can bring back to advance your goals.

## Here's Where You'll Find Us

For the 2020-2021 program year, meetings will be held in-person when possible, and virtually when necessary due to safety. Any in-person meetings will also include the option to participate virtually. The Career Readiness Collaborative meeting dates for this program year are:

- October 21-22, 2020
- February 23-24, 2021 (Jacksonville, FL)
- June 24-25, 2021 (Minneapolis, MN)



JOIN NOW

