

Policy Academy on Work-Based Learning

National Governors Association

Grant Overview



Washington was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the National Governors Association to create a policy framework to increase work-based learning for youth, with a focus on ages 16-29, particularly in STEM fields. (Turn the page for more details on Washington's academy goals.)



The Workforce Board was honored to be asked by Governor Inslee to lead the effort on the policy academy. The Workforce Board and the Governor's Office are co-chairing the state team.



Increasing access to work-based learning is a longstanding initiative of the Workforce Board and its Core Team partners. The Policy Academy will work to connect young adults to middle-skill opportunities in STEM fields, including advanced manufacturing, healthcare, IT, and energy.



Timeline: This 18-month leadership program runs through June 30, 2017.



Six states were selected to participate: Indiana, Iowa, Montana, New Hampshire, Utah and Washington. These states will work together to develop individual state policies, share what they've learned, and look for federal policy reform opportunities.

State Core Team Members

- Association of Washington Business
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Social and Health Services
- Employment Security Department
- Governor's Office
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Washington Building & Construction Trades Council
- Washington STEM
- Washington Student Achievement Council
- Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

Join our Home Team!

- Not a member of the state's Core Team? We still want your input! The Workforce Board is recruiting members for a Home Team that serves as an advisory board for the Core Team.
- Contact: Nova Gattman, Workforce Board Legislative Director at nova.gattman@wtb.wa.gov or (360) 709-4612 for more details.



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Washington's Policy Academy Goals

Create a state plan for an administrative and statutory policy framework that helps ensure work-based learning opportunities for all young people aged 16-29.

- Identify policy and funding roadblocks to scaling and creating work-based learning opportunities—and propose solutions.
- Emphasize strategies directed at disadvantaged, marginalized, and place-bound youth.
- Ensure all young people can access and benefit from such opportunities.



Create a performance measurement system for work-based learning.

- Survey providers of work-based learning to develop a baseline of opportunities currently available to young people.
- Identify the metrics and create a system to evaluate the impact of investments in work-based learning.
- Develop a rubric to help practitioners assess the quality of their program designs.
- Collaborate with agencies and organizations to provide data on the full range of work-based learning opportunities and outcomes.



Washington-Specific Projects: Learning Laboratories & Work-Based Learning Web-Based Matching System.

Learning Laboratories

- Assess and identify promising practices in work-based learning opportunities.
- Test potential performance measurement metrics.

Web-Based Matching System

- Provide an easy way for employers to list work-based learning opportunities, and for young people to identify options that fit their career goals.



Host a Governor's Summit on Work-Based Learning. (May, 2017)

Increasing work-based learning opportunities requires stronger partnerships among stakeholders. Governor Inslee's Summit will:

- Build a network of committed champions.
- Engage employers and stakeholders across the state via virtual regional sites.
- Highlight Learning Laboratories.
- Gather initial feedback and encourage ongoing participation in developing a new system.
- Distribute a how-to guide for schools and businesses to create work-based learning opportunities.

