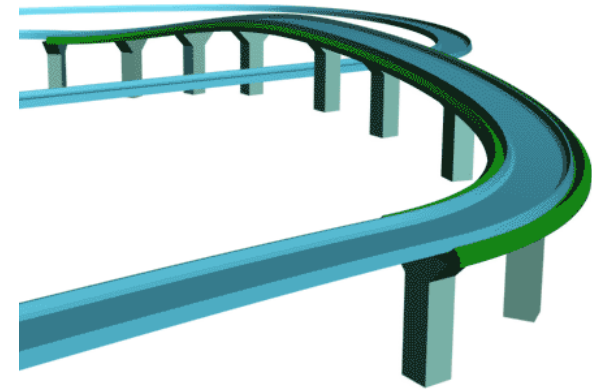


# Career Pathways: Bridging Business and Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce



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# Career Pathways System: Definition

- A series of connected education and training programs and support services.
  - Enables individuals to secure employment within a specific industry or occupational sector and to advance over time to successively higher levels of education or employment in that sector.
  - Designed explicitly to prepare for the next level of employment and education.
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# Career Pathways Programs

- Secondary-Postsecondary CTE
  - Tech Prep/Perkins
  - WIA/ One Stop Career Centers
  - Apprenticeships
  - Career Coaches
  - Adult Education
  - Middle Colleges
  - Career Readiness Certificate
  - Transfer Agreements
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# Goals

A career pathways system delivers success by:

- Linking education and training providers to economic development
  - Providing employers with a connection to a skilled workforce
  - Providing Virginia residents with education and training opportunities to develop and adapt their skills to a changing economy
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# Findings

## Strengthen:

- Coordination of education and training
  - Use and analysis of Labor Market Information
  - Connections to the business community
  - Advising and support for students/workers
  - Access to postsecondary education
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# Recommendations

- Charge the VA Workforce Council and Secretary of Education's Office with oversight and leadership of Virginia's career pathways system
  - Create statewide LMI advisory group to inform both policy and practice
  - Set a statewide policy goal for improving student transitions
  - Increase retention and completion rates among Virginians enrolled in workforce training and education
  - Establish sustainability of Virginia's career pathways system
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## New Initiatives

- Ford Foundation Grant—State and Regional Development
  - Executive Order Establishing State Career Pathways System Workgroup
  - NGA Grant for Postsecondary Credentials Attainment by Working Adults
  - Virginia's Education Wizard
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