State Workforce and Education Alignment Project
Ohio
July 2015

Partners

Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, Members of the State Legislature, Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Human Services Innovation Office, and Ohio Education Research Center (OERC)

Committees and Work Groups

SWEAP State Leadership Team, SWEAP Subject Matter Experts Committee

Background

Ohio has established the OERC, a collaboration of six universities and four research institutions, to develop and implement a statewide, preschool-though-workforce research agenda. OERC houses the Ohio Longitudinal Data Archive (OLDA), a repository of administrative records from Ohio's workforce and education agencies. On behalf of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, the OERC has built the Workforce Success Measures Dashboard that shows employment, earnings, and educational outcomes for WIOA Title I, Perkins Postsecondary Career and Technical Education, Adult Basic and Literacy Education, and State financial aid and scholarships.

Ohio has also established a methodology for identifying In-Demand Jobs based on labor market projections, job postings, and an employer survey. Ohio is just beginning the analysis of the supply side compared to demand. Ohio is also in the beginning stages of pathway evaluation. Ohio is participating in the U.S. Department of Education Moving Pathways Forward project.

Data Tool Objectives

Dashboards: Since Ohio has a well-developed dashboard, this will not be a major focus of the project. As the project addresses supply and demand reports and pathway evaluators, opportunities for possible refinements to the dashboard will be presented to the SWEAP State Leadership Team. This may include measurement of additional programs such as TANF E&T and SNAP E&T.

Pathway Evaluators: Ohio will use pathway evaluators to identify effective pathways to employment in industry sectors that are part of the state's Workforce Alliance, industry sector strategy. The state will also identify more broadly effective pathways that integrate WIOA, GED, and Perkins.

Supply and Demand Reports: Ohio will review and refine the state's approach to supply and demand analysis, including additional sources of supply and demand projections.

Policy Goals and Objectives

State policy leaders will have access to insightful data and information that will assist them in being able to make more data-driven decisions on policy direction and long-term investments for the state.

Enable analysis of supply-demand data that will inform strategies Ohio can implement either through policy, funding, or program alignment, that will close the gap on business talent needs.

Identify the most effective pathways for participants and their structures. From that work, provide a template for the braiding of funding, policy, and administrative processes across agencies that would enable wide-spread application of those pathways providing self-sustaining wages.