

# State Workforce and Education Alignment Project

## Rhode Island

July 2015

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### Partners

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Governor's Workforce Board, Office of the Commissioner for Postsecondary Education

### Committees and Work Groups

Rhode Island Sweep Initiative Steering Group, Workforce Development Sub-Cabinet, Career Pathways Advisory Committee

### Background

Rhode Island is completing the addition of U.S. Department of Labor-funded workforce programs to the State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). The SLDS is governed by a team comprised of the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, the Office of the Commissioner of Postsecondary Education, and the Providence Plan. The Providence Plan develops "Data Stories" to make data analysis and the policy implications more accessible to the public and elected officials. Developing a dashboard is a top priority for the state. Rhode Island has procured the data analysis tool, Future Works that could be used to support a state dashboard. The state has developed a methodology for comparing supply and demand based on job postings and Unemployment Insurance claimant information. The Career Pathways Advisory Committee under the Governor's Workforce Board is statutorily charged with developing and overseeing career pathways across key sectors. The On-Ramps and Career Pathways initiative is working to map pathways and identify gaps in those pathways. Rhode Island is also participating in the U.S. Department of Education's Moving Pathways Forward Initiative to integrate Adult Education into career pathways.

### Data Tool Objectives

**Dashboards:** Develop a dashboard using common metrics that include the following programs: WIOA Titles I, II, III, and IV; Postsecondary Career and Technical Education; and Adult Education. Including TANF E&T and SNAP E&T will be considered.

**Pathway Evaluators:** Further develop the state's pathway evaluator approach in order to identify pathways for different groups of people to successfully fill jobs in target occupations.

**Supply and Demand Reports:** Reconsider the state’s approach to supply and demand analysis for possible refinements or implementation of an alternative approach.

### **Policy Goals and Objectives**

Improve the state’s ability to collect, analyze, apply, visualize, and communicate about and organize around data, and advance better data-driven decision making in the development and assessment of workforce development public policy and administration.

Inform the Governor’s Real Jobs Rhode Island initiative and the development of the State WIOA Plan.

Effectively identify and evaluate career pathways for gaps and relevance.