



Providing all Ohioans with World-Class Preparation for Careers and College

How Governor Kasich's Budget is Transforming Workforce in Ohio

In September 2016, Governor John R. Kasich challenged his [Executive Workforce Board](#) to come up with ways to prepare and continuously retrain Ohioans of all ages for jobs today and tomorrow. Board members engaged their local communities for feedback and presented the following recommendations to the governor for incorporation into the state budget. The following recommendations are included in the [FY18-19 Executive Biennial Budget](#) and fall within three main categories: connecting business and education, creating a culture of continuous learning, and building career pathways.

Connecting Business and Education

- Build a Regional Workforce Collaboration Model to guide communities in engaging stakeholders, developing partnerships, and implementing workforce best practices
- Create accountability by requiring Business Advisory Councils to meet at least quarterly and report progress annually to the local school board
- Develop a Workforce Supply Tool which shows higher education graduates by each in-demand occupation
- Develop an "OhioMeansJobs-Ready Certificate" to be awarded to students who demonstrate they are ready to work
- Allow students to earn simultaneous credit in multiple subjects through cross-disciplinary curriculum integration
- Establish a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) designation for schools that integrate art and design into the STEM curriculum

Creating a Culture of Continuous Learning

- Position libraries as "Continuous Learning Centers" that offer information about in-demand jobs, relevant education and training
- Facilitate better coordination between county OhioMeansJobs Centers and local libraries
- Strengthen the Ohio Digital Library's online education resources to provide more accessible training materials to adult learners
- Allow and incentivize incarcerated individuals to complete a High School Diploma or Equivalency while incarcerated
- Increase the maximum award amount for the OhioMeansJobs Revolving Loan Fund and prioritize credit and non-credit certificate programs that align with in-demand jobs
- Report annually on progress toward Ohio's goal of achieving 65% of Ohio's adult-age workers attaining degrees, certificates, or other credentials of value by 2025

Building Career Pathways

- Engage businesses in developing industry-recognized credentials for high school students
- Align state recognized pre-apprenticeship programs with College Credit Plus and add recognized pre-apprenticeship as a pathway to high school graduation
- Inventory non-credit and credit certificate programs and prioritize funding for programs that align with in-demand jobs
- Work with the business community to increase the number of students in Ohio who pursue certificates or degrees in the field of advanced technology and cyber security
- Improve and expand Certificates of Qualification for Employment, which are awarded to qualified ex-offenders and serve as a reference letter from a judge, and provide businesses with legal protections
- Conduct an employer survey every two years to update Ohio's In-Demand Jobs List

In addition, the state is working to align language in the Ohio Revised Code with the 2014 Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and enable state agencies to more effectively and efficiently share data to measure outcomes of state-funded programs.