



Career Connect Washington is not a program, it is a system—supported by five state agencies, a private sector nonprofit, eleven local Career Connect Teams, and Governor Jay Inslee’s office—that funds existing programs to work together as a single team.

Purpose: Create a permanent career connected learning **system** to expand youth registered apprenticeship, comprehensive internship, and career connected learning experiences in STEM and other high demand fields. Reach 100,000 youth by 2023 and all students over the longer term—with a focus on low-income, rural, and youth of color.

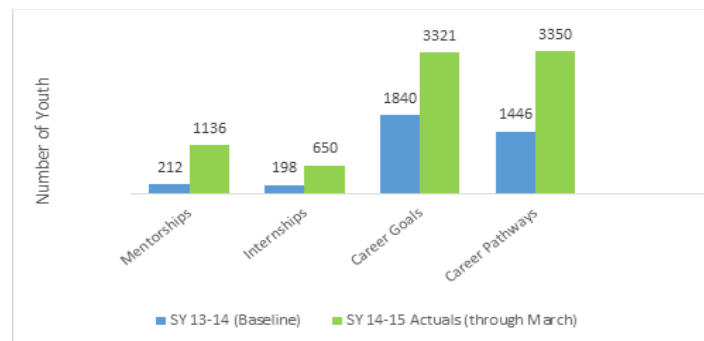
Interrelated Problems: Washington employers have **260,000** job openings per year paying \$35,000 or more, with **73%** requiring some postsecondary education. Skill gaps persist at all levels, slowing employer growth and job creation. Simultaneously, Washington’s young adult unemployment rate is **12.4%** (ages 16-24 unemployed and actively seeking work), and Washington’s 5-year high school graduation rate is 81.9%. Eighteen percent, or **18,000** young people per year, do not graduate within 5 years of starting high school. **Career Connect Washington empowers local communities to close skill gaps for employers and help young people succeed in school and life, through rigorous, relevant, and relationship-based career connected learning.**

Teamwork: Each **local Career Connect Team** must include a Workforce Development Council and STEM Network as co-leads, a business champion, youth apprenticeship-sponsoring organization, school district or educational services district, dropout reengagement program, career and technical education program, post-secondary institutions, and may also include skills centers, homeless youth programs, foster youth providers, private career schools, Jobs for Washington Graduates, Gear-Up, MESA, and other youth programs.

Accountability: The local Career Connect Teams work together to **increase their collective impact**, set specific quarterly targets, and actively evaluate actuals versus goal each quarter. The state-level agencies and private sector organizations provide unified leadership to support local teams, track quarterly statewide results, and provide peer-to-peer learning so local teams learn from one another statewide.

Experience: Career Connect Washington is based upon five years of experience with pilots and statewide prototypes, in rural, urban, and suburban communities all across Washington, which **doubled, tripled, or quadrupled** results each year (see 2014-2015 graph).

Funding: \$1m from JPMorgan Chase plus \$6.4m federal WIOA funding, RFP’d competitively, to reach 29,000 youth by 2019.



Next Steps: Identify public/private funding for next competitive RFP, to reach 100,000 youth by 2023. Engage state teams, 11 local teams, and youth apprenticeship experts from Switzerland and other states, to design a full scale career connected learning system to reach all **1,117,000** Washington state students and out of school youth with career exploration, mentoring, registered apprenticeship, or comprehensive on-site employer internship. Focus on our **226,000** children living in poverty, **509,000** students of color, **18,000** youth who do not graduate each year, **249,000** middle school students, and **343,000** high school students. Track long-term positive impact on skill gaps, employer growth, job creation, graduation rate, and youth career entry.

Bottom line: Bring this to full scale to **grow businesses and change lives.**

Data Sources: [UW Washington Pathways](#); [WSAC Regional Workforce Needs Report](#); [ESD Strategic Measure RJ3](#); [OSPI Graduation Rates Release 2/22/17](#); [OSPI Data and Reports Quick Links](#); [Children’s Alliance Child Poverty in Washington Fact Sheet](#).



STATEWIDE SUMMARY

Career Connect Washington is a **single unified system** to grow businesses and change lives. By October 2019, we will create career connected learning experiences for **over 29,000** youth, including **217** registered youth apprenticeships and **4,301** comprehensive internships for youth. Youth registered apprenticeships will expand into firefighting, forest products, health care, construction, marine manufacturing, aerospace, advanced manufacturing, food service, public utilities, sheet metal, and agriculture irrigation technology. **381** adults also gain apprenticeships and comprehensive support to ensure they succeed. *State-wide award: \$6,400,000; local leveraged funds: \$12,617,676.*

SEATTLE-KING COUNTY

Business Champion: Seattle Regional Partnership
Connecting youth to careers in construction, utilities, medical/dental assisting, food service
\$1,300,000 contracted + \$5,643,309 local leveraged funds
King County

NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Business Champion: Chelan Public Utilities
Connecting youth to careers in public utilities, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, IT
\$854,547 contracted + \$482,272 local leveraged funds
Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, Adams Counties

SOUTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Business Champion: SKD Farms
Connecting youth to careers in utilities, natural resources/agriculture, advanced manufacturing
\$831,984 contracted + \$446,123 local leveraged funds
Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat, Skamania Counties

TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY

Business Champion: The Construction Center of Excellence
Connecting youth to careers in industrial maintenance, carpentry, sheet metal, HVAC
\$852,910 contracted + \$755,606 local leveraged funds
Pierce County

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Business Champion: Rebound Orthopedics & Neurosurgery
Connecting youth to careers in health care, manufacturing, construction, technology
\$740,000 contracted + \$949,423 local leveraged funds
Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark Counties

NORTHWEST

Business Champion: Nichols Brothers Boat Builders
Connecting youth to careers in marine manufacturing, health, construction
\$957,255 contracted + \$639,376 local leveraged funds
Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island Counties

EASTERN WASHINGTON

Business Champion: Boise Cascade
Connecting youth to careers in natural resources, firefighting
\$263,303 contracted + \$172,500 local leveraged funds
Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Whitman, Asotin, Garfield, Walla Walla, Columbia Counties

OLYMPIC, PACIFIC MOUNTAIN, SNOHOMISH, SPOKANE

Business Champions: MacDonald-Miller Facility Solutions, Sea-Lect Plastics, Thurston County Chamber of Commerce, Inland Northwest Health Services (INHS)
\$150,000 each to create opportunities in trades, manufacturing, and health care
Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap, Grays Harbor, Thurston, Pacific, Lewis, Mason, Snohomish, Spokane Counties

