



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

High-Quality Work-Based Learning (WBL) Examples

The Explore, Engage, and Experience (3E) Grant is aimed at helping schools and communities strengthen, expand, and create effective pre-K to career pathways and linkages. An increasing number of state, regional, and local partnerships are being developed to blur the lines between PK-12, higher education, and the workforce. Our education system plays an essential role in ensuring all students develop foundational knowledge and skills, as well as have access to exploration, engagement, and experiences that illuminate the range of opportunities available to them after high school. This includes career exploration and engagement in elementary and middle school and hands-on experiences in high school that support students as they choose a path of employment, enrollment, and enlistment leading to service. Below, please find examples of high-quality work-based learning opportunities that have been implemented in Indiana schools.

Career Development Program at Garrett High School

The Career Development Program at Garrett High School provides students with an opportunity to collaborate with community partners and industry leaders to learn about regional needs and modern industry standards.

Students participating in the Career Development Program have access to multiple certification programs, including the Indiana State Earn and Learn (SEAL), in fields such as architecture, construction, welding, manufacturing, and more. Through work-based learning, apprenticeship, and internship opportunities, Career Development Program students leave high school ready for their next steps.

Key partnerships: Ivy Tech Community College of Fort Wayne, National Center for Construction Education and Research, and Northeast Indiana Works

WBL experiences: Building and construction work-based learning opportunities, welding apprenticeship program through Northeast Indiana Works, architecture, engineering and design paid internships and apprenticeships

Credentials earned: Students participating in the Career Development Program earn dual credit through Ivy Tech and various field-related certifications depending on the program of study.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

Early Childhood Education at Ben Davis High School/Area 31 Career Center

Students in grades 11 and 12 at Ben Davis and surrounding high schools can participate in the early childhood education program at Area 31 Career Center. Childcare facilities are located on campus, within walking distance, and throughout the communities of all participating school districts.

First year students gain content knowledge through classroom instruction and embedded work-based learning experiences. In the second year of the program, students engage in a work-based learning experience with a partnering employer and may test for their Child Development Associate (CDA) credential at the end of the year.

Key partnerships: Giant Preschool Learning Center, Chapelwood Elementary School, Wayne Township Preschool, Children's Village, Ivy Tech

WBL experiences: Classroom instruction, skill development, classroom management and observation, working one-on-one with students

Credentials earned: Students who complete both years of the program can earn the Child Development Associate credential, required in Indiana for all preschools that are Paths to Quality Level 4. Students can also earn dual credits at Ivy Tech in early childhood education.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

Commodore Manufacturing at Perry Central Community Schools

Commodore Manufacturing is a student-owned and operated manufacturing facility housed on the campus of Perry Central Community Schools. Over 40% of the job opportunities in Perry County are found in the advanced manufacturing field.

Commodore Manufacturing is a vendor for Jasper Engines & Transmissions, Waupaca Foundry and other regional companies, manufacturing parts that are used in their facilities or shipped across the world. Students are paid for their work as they apply their knowledge of work process standards, safety, quality and business management. Students also acquire transferable skills such as welding, reading directions, measurement, computer-aided drafting, CNC operation, and other professional skills.

Key partnerships: Jasper Engines & Transmissions, Waupaca Foundry, Ivy Tech Community College

WBL experiences: Advanced manufacturing, industrial maintenance with mechanical or electrical concentrations

Credentials earned: Manufacturing Skill Council Standards certification, National Additive Manufacturing certification, Indiana Governor's Work Ethic Certification, dual credit from Ivy Tech Community College, Department of Labor Approved Apprenticeship National Certification



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

Colonel's Cupboard at Arsenal Tech High School

Colonel's Cupboard is Indianapolis Public School's student-run restaurant on the Arsenal Tech campus. Students enrolled in the culinary arts pathway assist in both front- and back-of-house operations.

The culinary arts program trains students to plan, calculate costs, manage, prepare, and serve food in commercial restaurants and semi-public institutions. Students are not only provided with culinary experiences in a kitchen, but also restaurant management skills. The program allows students to learn dedication, commitment, and how to work as a team, as well as how to create, troubleshoot, and inspire.

Key partnerships: Employ Indy, Shepherd Community Center, and Patachou Foundation's Summer Immersive Internship in Business and Culinary Arts all provide work-based learning opportunities, mentoring, and employment opportunities following graduation.

WBL experiences: Job shadowing, career mentoring, career-related competitions, paid and unpaid internships, service learning, paid work experience, volunteering, workplace tours, field trips

Credentials earned: Students participating in the culinary arts pathway earn dual credit through Ivy Tech as well as Serv-Safe Food Handler and Serv-Safe Manager certifications.