

STATE OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN WNC

VIRTUAL VIEWING & DISCUSSION



Partnerships from
Pre-K to Post-Grad

*my*FUTURENC
2 million by 2030

**WE ARE SO GLAD YOU
ARE HERE!**

WEBINAR BEGINS @ 3PM

**PLEASE ENJOY
NETWORKING & SNACKS
BEFOREHAND**

Workforce Act

Preparing North Carolinians for high-demand jobs—faster, more efficient, and employer-led.

2026 Advocacy Agenda			
<i>Four Cross-Sector Partnerships That Deliver Results</i>			
Work-Based Learning	Career Exploration	Seamless Education Pathways	Employer-Valued Credentials
Who: Led by K12 & Higher Ed, in partnership with NC Commerce & employers	Who: Led by K–12, Higher Ed, & workforce agencies, informed by employer demand	Who: Led by education systems, in coordination with NCSEAA	Who: Led by employers, in partnership with NC Commerce & education
What: Paid, employer-led training connected to credentials NEED: State funding to sustain and scale ApprenticeshipNC Result: Employers fill roles faster and workers earn while learning	What: Statewide career planning aligned to job demand NEED: State investment to enhance NC Careers for students and working adults Result: Clearer career choices, less mismatch, smarter use of training dollars	What: Technology-enabled transfer pathways across education systems NEED: State support to layer transfer tools on the digital transcript Result: Faster credit transfer, fewer dead ends, more completions	What: Employer-validated credentials tied to in-demand jobs NEED: State funding for NC Workforce Credentials and short-term credentials grants Result: Credentials employers value, quicker hiring, stronger return on investment
Strengthened by this Agenda's Alignment with:		NC College Connect • Propel NC • Next NC • NC Need-Based Scholarships • Boost / Completion Assistance Grants • NC Works	




The P20 Council strengthens regional coordination by working with partners to align efforts, streamline structures, and create programs that are complementary, non-duplicative, and geared toward regional success.

Handout




Priorities	Strategic Goals	Actions to Initiate	Actions to Scale	Actions to Continue
<i>Collaborative Leadership & Shared Community Commitment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilitate cross-sector collaboration to advance shared educational and workforce attainment goals. -Coordinate and elevate regional storytelling, resource-sharing, and learning networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community Partnership Pledge -Community Partner Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Senior Leadership Engagement -Council Member Partnership Pledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Quarterly Cross-Sector Leadership Convenings -Shared Communications and Resource Platform -Ongoing County-Employer Collaboration
<i>Learner Readiness and K-12 Engagement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilitate and support career awareness and exploration for all students. -Strengthen support systems that embed Career Development Plans into student pathways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Family Career Pathway Education Series -Integrated Regional Career Campaign -Chronic Absenteeism Awareness Campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Support Systems for K-12 Counselors -Middle Grades Peer Leadership Model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Collaborative Grant Leadership -Industry-Partnered School Engagement
<i>Postsecondary Access, Transitions, and Success</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strengthen advising and access to financial and navigational resources. -Facilitate successful enrollment and completion of postsecondary credentials for high school graduates and adult learners. -Expand cross-sector collaboration to support transitions and workforce-aligned education pathways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community-Based Postsecondary Access Forums -Adult Learner Outreach and Recruitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adult Learner Identification and Outreach -Regional Cross-Sector Forums on Attainment -Increase Credential Transparency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Financial Aid Awareness and Access -Career & College Promise -Student Representative Program -Collaborative Grant Leadership
<i>Workforce Preparation and Career Pathways</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strengthen awareness for access to career exploration and work-based learning in high-demand sectors. -Expand opportunities for learners to earn stackable, industry-recognized credentials. -Deepen partnerships with employers who co-design advancement pathways for current and future workers. -Strengthen support systems that guide youth and adults in career navigation and decision-making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Career Road Map Series -Navigation Frameworks -Career Signing Days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Work-Based Learning (WBL) Expansion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Promotion of NCWorks Career Centers and Credentialing Programs -Annual Workforce Convening



Did anyone hear something today that reinforced OR reframed how you think about our local work and where we might need to sharpen our focus?

Where are we not yet meeting the needs of learners, job seekers, or employers in our counties?



What's one education or workforce effort you are aware of that's working well and could be expanded?



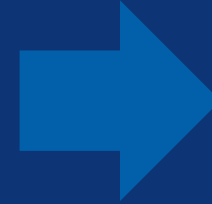
Reflect - Chat (10 min)

Full group Discussion (20 min)



Integrating/Augmenting P20 Committee Work

Learner Readiness & K12
Engagement:



Strengthens partnerships between
industry and schools

Workforce Prep. & Career
Pathways:



Defining where we can
add value to the
credentialing system

Postsecondary Access,
Transitions & Success:



Aligning and modernizing
credentials, learning models,
and pathways

Collaborative Leadership
& Shared Community
Commitment:



Re-engaging P20 members
CEO Engagement
Community Partners

WHAT'S NEXT?

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is a success. - Henry Ford



FOLLOW UP REFERENCES FROM TODAY ARRIVING IN YOUR INBOX SOON FROM MYFUTURENC

OPEN INVITATION TO REQUEST A VISIT FROM MFNC/P20 TO:

- WALK YOUR TEAM THROUGH THE NEWLY RELEASED DATA PROFILES AND/OR THE ADVOCACY NEEDS OF THE WORKFORCE ACT
- INCORPORATE YOUR VOICE & ACTION-ORIENTED IDEAS INTO A P20 COMMITTEE ALONGSIDE AN EXEC COMM MEMBER

