



New Skills for Youth

OHIO

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Ohio was one of 10 states selected to participate in New Skills for Youth (NSFY), an initiative enhancing state efforts to increase the number of learners across the country who are prepared for success in both college and career. Between 2016 and 2019, Ohio strengthened its career readiness system through NSFY by:

Galvanizing employer engagement at the state and local levels



Ohio created statewide advisory councils tasked with guiding the design and implementation of career pathways, validating industry-recognized credentials and expanding work-based learning offerings. By the end of 2019, Ohio will have set up sector advisory councils for advanced manufacturing, logistics and transportation, energy and chemicals, cybersecurity and biohealth. Separately, the state developed guidance for school districts and education service centers to operationalize local business advisory councils, which serve to advise, aid and support local career pathways. As a result, more than 100 local business advisory councils were created across the state.

Designing and launching the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal



In 2018, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) designed and piloted a career readiness diploma endorsement called the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal. To qualify for the seal, high school graduates must demonstrate proficiency across 14 competencies — including work ethic, critical thinking/problem solving, and oral and written communication — which are validated by three professional mentors in their school, community or work. By 2019, more than 4,200 high school students had graduated with the endorsement, and the seal had gained recognition among industry and postsecondary leaders, with 15 employers and two institutions of higher education submitting testimonials in support of the seal.

“The New Skills for Youth initiative in Ohio has established an enhanced career readiness opportunity for **all Ohio students to become more prepared for the workplace upon graduation from career centers and high schools.** Honda is excited to be a part of this program, which will serve as a catalyst for creating pathways for the future manufacturing talent in Ohio.”

— Scot McLemore,
Manager of Talent
Acquisition and Mobility,
Honda North America, Inc.

Supporting the integration of academic and technical standards

In 2018, ODE [released guidance](#) to help local districts and schools expand opportunities for simultaneous credit, a policy that allows Ohio students to participate in Career Technical Education (CTE), dual credit or work-based learning and still receive credit for their core academic courses. ODE also developed a tool called Standards by Design, which crosswalks technical and academic standards, to empower teachers and other school-based staff to develop integrated curricula. Teachers across the state worked collaboratively to align the standards in 2018-19, and the alignments will be housed in the Standards by Design tool scheduled for release in late 2019.



Expanding access to high-quality career pathways for low-income students

Through NSFY, Ohio identified and leveraged an opportunity to expand access to career pathways using funding from the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The [Expanding Opportunities for Each Child](#) grant is specifically focused on students who are low achieving or from low-income families, a major focus of ESSA. To qualify, applicants need to demonstrate how the program will increase access to opportunities and improve outcomes for targeted learners. Since 2018, ODE has committed more than \$26 million in three-year awards across 56 sites to expand advanced coursework and develop new career pathways.

MAJOR STATE POLICY WINS

House Bill (H.B.) 49 (2017) [↗](#)

Ohio's 2017 omnibus budget directed ODE to develop guidance for offering simultaneous credit, authorized the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, and called for standards for operating local business advisory councils.

Accountability System (2017) [↗](#)

Ohio's ESSA accountability system includes a college and career readiness indicator called Prepared for Success. The indicator, which was adapted from an indicator on the state's CTE report card, measures the percentage of students who achieve a remediation-free score on the ACT or SAT, receive an honor diploma or earn an industry-recognized credential. Students can also receive bonus points by earning at least three dual enrollment credits or earning passing scores on an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam.

H.B. 166 (2019) [↗](#)

The Ohio General Assembly's FY 2020-21 budget included new provisions and funding to support career readiness. The law changed high school graduation requirements by requiring students to earn two state diploma seals, one of which can be the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal. The budget also appropriated \$25 million each fiscal year to support industry-recognized credential attainment.

Ohio NSFY Impact *by the Numbers*

4,200+

Number of students earning
the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness
Seal since 2018

100+

Number of local business
advisory councils

\$26M

Dollars committed through
the Expanding Opportunities
for Each Child grant

12%

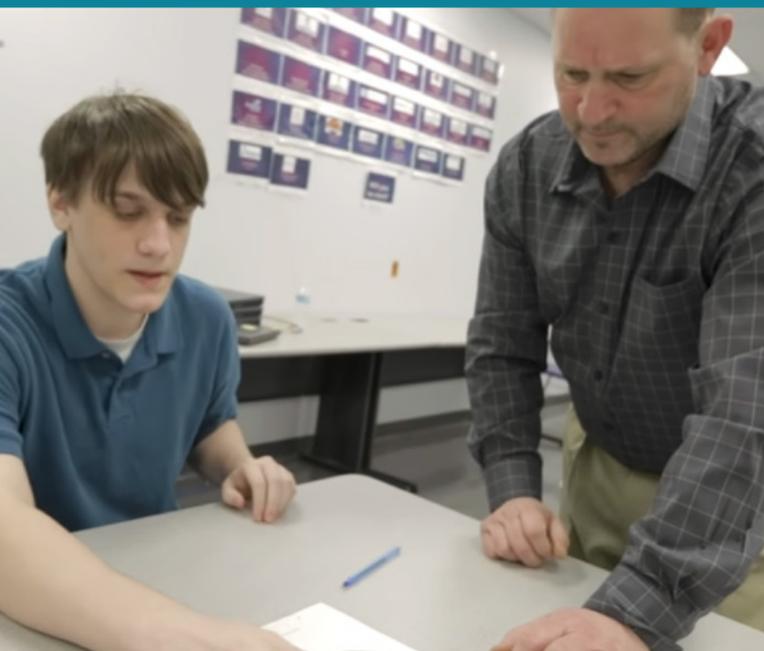
Percentage of 2018 graduates
who earned a high-skill, high-
demand industry-recognized
credential, a 3 percentage
point increase from 2017





Sustainability Strategy

Through NSFY, Ohio successfully organized its career pathways portfolio under the SuccessBound brand. Under SuccessBound, the state has organized several regional conferences, developed tools and materials in the SuccessBound microsite, and launched a communications strategy to address the stigma around career-focused learning. Additionally, ODE's new strategic plan, [Each Child, Our Future](#), includes an entire strategy focused on college and career readiness, and new funding for industry-recognized credentials was secured in the Legislature's FY 2020-21 budget.



Ohio NSFY Local Impact: Hamilton Township High School

Through SuccessBound, Hamilton Township High School has enacted a career exploration, preparation and connection program called Ranger Pathways. The program allows all Hamilton Township High School students to explore career fields that are consistent with their interests and skills. Students can participate in college-level coursework and career training, supported through partnerships with Columbus State Community College and Eastland-Fairfield Career Center, and connect with businesses or municipalities for internships, apprenticeships or other valuable work experiences.

ABOUT NSFY

NSFY is a \$75 million national initiative developed by JPMorgan Chase & Co. As part of this initiative, the Council of Chief State School Officers, Advance CTE and Education Strategy Group worked with states to improve their career readiness systems. NSFY consisted of two phases. During Phase One (March-October 2016), states conducted a comprehensive needs assessment and developed action plans to examine and transform their career readiness systems and expand the opportunities available to learners. During Phase Two (January 2017-December 2019), states executed their three-year plans to transform their career readiness systems.