# Youth Workforce

Elana Pirtle-Guiney, Governor's Office Nick Beleiciks, Oregon Employment Department Karen Humelbaugh, Higher Education Coordinating Commission Mark Lewis, Chief Education Office Cord Bueker, Youth Development Council

# Workforce System Goals

Provide young people with information and experiences to spur further career development and connect to Oregon employers

Special emphasis on: Rural communities, families experiencing multi-generational poverty, and communities of color

# **Opportunity Youth**

*Opportunity Youth: young people ages 16-24 who are not enrolled in school or working* 

In 2014, there were 58,724 Opportunity Youth in Oregon

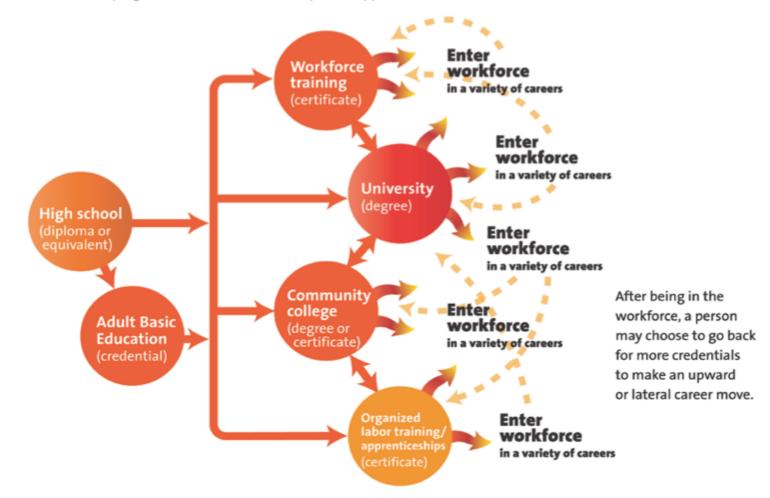
- 12.8% of all 16-24 year olds
- 60% of Oregon Opportunity Youth are 20 or older

Opportunity Youth include young people who:

- Have dropped out of school and have not completed a diploma or GED
- Have completed high school, but have not transitioned to higher education or employment
- Have entered the workforce, but are currently unemployed or unable to work

#### **Career Pathways**

Effective career pathways rely on coordination across education and training programs in order to offer a clear sequence of industry-relevant coursework and credentials to job seekers. Today's education and training programs include online and in-person opportunities.



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The Woolsey Group



# House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

**Nick Beleiciks** 



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### Unemployment is still high for Oregon's youth.

- Unemployment Rates:
  - o 16 to 19 Years: 20.0%
  - o 20 to 24 Years: 9.6%
  - 25+ Years: 3.9%
- One-third of unemployed Oregonians are under age 25.
- Prospects have improved because of Oregon's strong job growth and historically low unemployment rate.



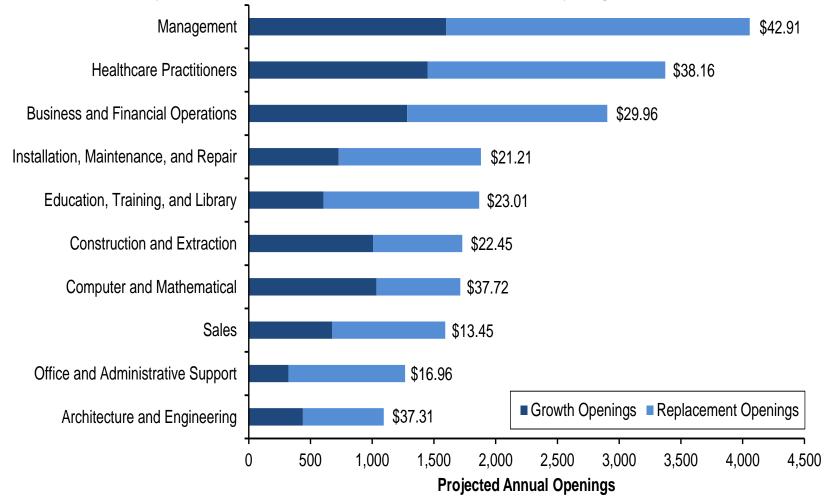
### Training youth for high-wage, high-demand jobs.

- Projected 27,000 high-wage, high-demand job openings each year through 2024.
- For every new high-wage, high-demand job opportunity created by economic growth, another one is created due to replacement as workers retire.
- The workforce system uses projected job openings when planning training programs.



### Top 10 groups of high-wage, high-demand occupations.

Projected Annual Openings in High-Wage, High-Demand Occupations by Occupational Group and the Group's Median Hourly Wage, 2014-2024



### Will technology replace our jobs?

- Technology will destroy some jobs and create new ones.
- Change also depends on social acceptance and policy.
- Occupational projections already account for technological impacts on jobs:
  - Manufacturing automation and efficiency gains
  - Retail Trade online shopping and self-checkout
  - Information less print and more web publishing
  - Leisure and hospitality ordering food, booking hotels online





#### Nick Beleiciks, State Employment Economist

Nick.J.Beleiciks@Oregon.gov 503-947-1267

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# Youth economic and employment barriers

Youth served by workforce programs often face challenges and barriers including

• Homeless

• Runaway

- Pregnant
- Parenting
- Foster Care
- Ex-Offender
- Disabled

• Low-income

# Young Oregonians

Youth who are not working are missing:

- Preparation for self-sufficiency later in life
- Development of work ethics
- Opportunity for career exploration
- Income that can be saved for future needs

# **Employer Insights**

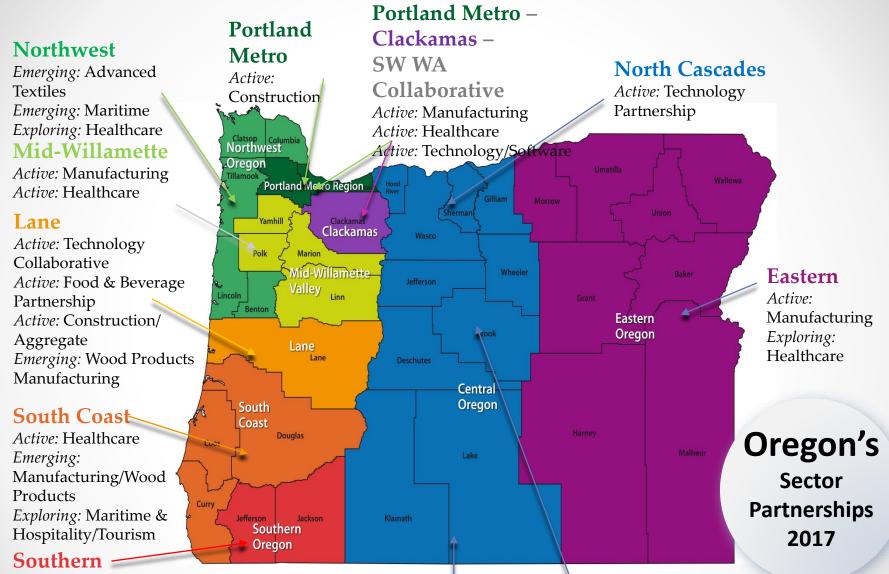
- Key Workplace Skills
- Basic Skills
- Technical and vocational skills
- Early work experience
- Work readiness

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

- A popular framework for the type of skills young people will need for success in the economy of the future is 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills. These include:
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Creativity and imagination
- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Technology and information literacy
- Communication skills
- Initiative and seeking opportunity
- Leadership

# Work and Learn

- Job Shadows
- Internships-paid and unpaid
- Summer work experience
- Classroom with hands on for credit
- On the Job Training
- Apprenticeship



Active: Rogue Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Active: Rogue Tech Collective – Information Technology/E-Commerce Active: Healthcare

#### **South Cascades**

*Active:* Specialty Ag Partnership

#### **Central Cascades**

Active: Technology Partnership Active: Outdoor Gear

# **Career-connected Learning Continuum**

#### **Career Awareness**

#### Learning ABOUT Work

#### **Career Exploration**

- Guest speakers
- Career fair
- Visit parent at work
- Worksite field trip
- Talent inventories

#### Learning ABOUT Work

- Informational interview
- Job shadow
- Project-based learning Guidance counseling

#### **Career Preparation**

#### Learning THROUGH Work

- Student-run enterprise
- Internships
- Service learning
- Industry-guided curriculum projects
- Resume and career workshops
- Student leadership orgs

#### **Career Training**

#### Learning FOR Work

- Apprenticeship
- Clinical experience
- •On-the-job training
- Mentoring
- Summer work or research experience



#### **Connecting Education to Careers**

#### Oregon CTE Investments

- CTE Revitalization
  Grants
- Regional & Summer Programs
- Sustainable Funding

#### Shared Outcomes

- Economic prosperity
- Increased graduation rates
- Career and college readiness
- Equity for underserved students
- Student motivation & engagement
- Academic and technical proficiency
- Creativity, critical thinking, problemsolving, communication

#### **Shared Approaches**

- Hands-on/minds-on
- Community-based, purpose-driven
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Opportunities for student choice
- Authentic, "messy" problem-solving
- Using data & analytics
- Innovation & entrepreneurship
- Industry partnerships
- Early career experiences

#### **Shared High-demand Careers**

- Health Sciences
- Engineering & Construction
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Computer Science & IT
- Precision Agriculture &
  Food processing

#### Oregon STEM Investments

- Regional STEM Hub Network
- Innovation Grants
- High-demand Post-Secondary Programs



Oregon Department of Education | Oregon Education Investment Board 2015

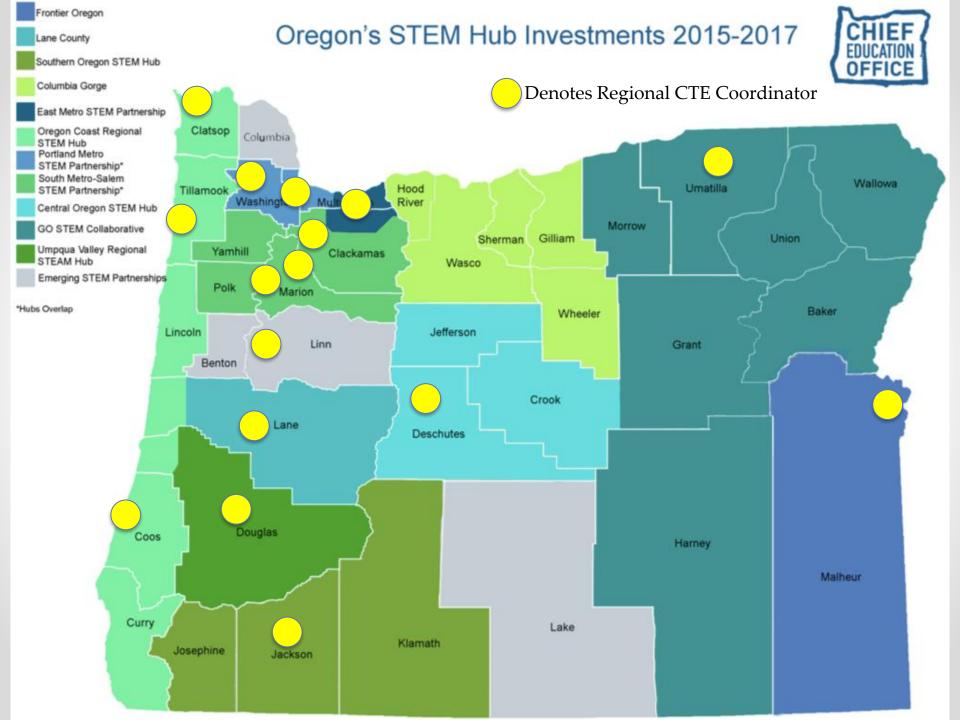
# **Oregon Connections**



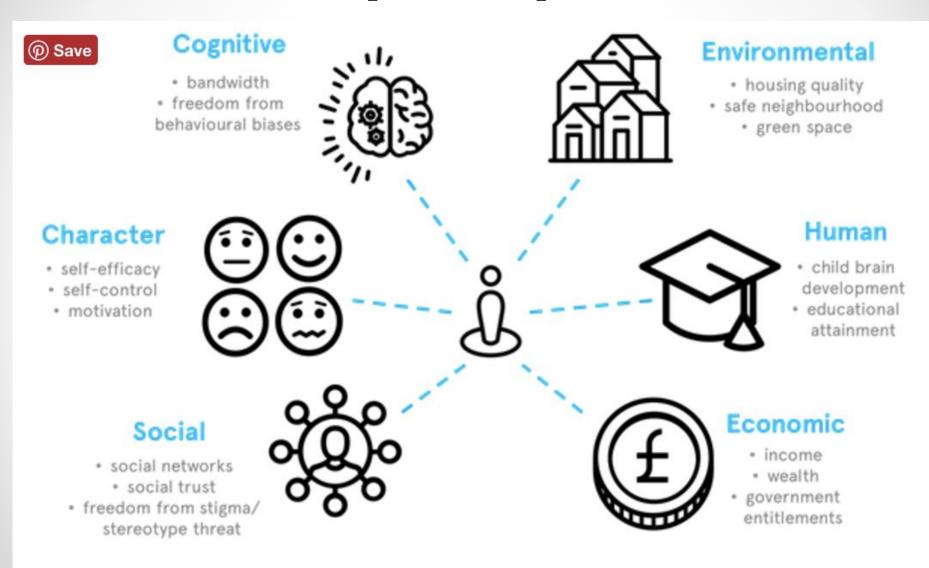








#### **Inequities in capital resources**



### **Multiple Pathways and Opportunities to Reengage**

- Varied Approaches: Serving students and youth at different ages, in multiple settings, with a variety of services to develop skills and access opportunity.
- **Responsive Training and Support:** The broad array of programs and services is tailored to the range of skills, interests and needs young people bring to workforce development.
- One size does <u>not</u> fit all: The Oregon workforce development system is designed to develop every young person's unique abilities, expose them to career pathways, and prepare them for future success.

# **Community-Driven** Approaches

- While the majority of youth workforce services are administered at the state level, local approaches and community partners are critical to the success of these services.
- Local Workforce Boards: Business and community leaders from the region guide the development of training for targeted industries and delivery of services.
- Community Based Organizations utilize partnerships with local schools, businesses and service providers to build local networks of support for young trainees.
- Culturally-specific programs and services build community trust and remove barriers.

# **Youth-Driven** Approaches

Targeted industries and community needs critically inform the goals of Youth Workforce programs, but successful training is appropriate and responsive to a young audience.

- Youth take ownership of their paths and their goals through developing a plan and receiving skilled career coaching and mentoring.
- **Positive Youth Development and trauma-informed practices** are emerging as critical components of training approaches.
- Ensuring that education and training are applicable and relevant is crucial.
- **Opportunities for youth to develop and demonstrate leadership** build a vital skill that prepares them for success in education and the workplace.

### Innovation

- The ever-changing nature of industry, education and technology requires that training programs remain agile and responsive in order to meet emerging needs.
- Technology is rapidly altering the workplace and offering new means of outreach, skill development, career exploration, and networking with employers.
- Innovation is not just necessary for training providers, it's <u>an ability that must be developed in</u> <u>trainees</u> in order to prepare them for the future of work.

### Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an emerging approach to developing career readiness skills. Entrepreneurship training:

- Integrates work-readiness training, soft skill development, financial literacy, career exploration, work experience, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills
- Adaptable to youth interests, and connective with community issues and local opportunities
- Aligns with STEM and CTE programs
- Develops valuable skills for youth, whether they go on to education, the workplace, or starting their own business

