



NCII Rural Pathways Project

Institute 3: Connection to College and Connection to Programs: The Role of the Institution and Community Stakeholders

Team Session #1 – February 8, 2023

Overall Note:

Team time templates are designed to be worked on initially during the Institute and then utilized back at the college as a point of departure for further inquiry. Completed post-institute team time documents are to be submitted to Sarah Cale at sarah@ncii-improve.com by March 17th.

Introduction to Team Time #1:

For this team session, we would like your team to have an initial dialogue about the slides from the opening session that provide an overview of the four discipline pathways. Please begin addressing the following questions during team time, then complete them as a team when you return to the institution.

Of the four academic disciplines included, pick **one** to focus on to begin: (Business, Health, IT, or Manufacturing). Review the types of jobs listed at each level (Start, Seed, Scale, Career).

College personnel and discipline experts:

1. Does the college's current curriculum help students acquire the skills needed to move up a level?



2. Is this done through a set of stackable credentials, or would students need to enroll in multiple types of programs?

K12 partners:

1. How do high school offerings prepare students for the core skills required in the academic discipline at each job level?
2. How often are those courses taught in college-preparatory courses, compared to career-focused courses?
3. Do the courses taught in dual and concurrent enrollment align with programs that lead to jobs with a living wage in your community?

Community partners and occupational/industry experts:

1. In your community, are there clear progressions from jobs at one level to the next within the workplace?
2. How frequently do you see individuals move up this career ladder?

3. What role does entrepreneurship play in this progression?

Entire Team:

1. Do workers and current students know about their opportunities for moving up this career ladder and how to gain the skills necessary to successfully attain a different job?

Note: If your group would prefer to have this discussion with discipline and industry experts who are not here today, identify whom you would talk with and how you could engage them in discussing these questions.

If you have sufficient time, repeat this activity for additional academic disciplines.