A Call to Action

Rethink Work-Based Learning

Providing national leadership and support in the advancement of globally competitive career, technical, and adult education systems that equip and empower youth and adults to succeed.
EMPLOYMENT NOW EXCEPTION; NOT THE RULE

Average Employment Rates of Youth Ages 16-19, by Generation

- **Baby Boom**
  - Teen Years 1962-1983
  - July: 55%  
  - Annual Average: 43%

- **Generation X**
  - Teen Years 1981-1999
  - July: 55%  
  - Annual Average: 44%

- **Millennial**
  - Teen Years 1997-2015
  - July: 42%  
  - Annual Average: 35%

- **Post-Millennial**
  - Teen Years 2013-2020
  - July: 29%  
  - Annual Average: 35%


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### Summer Youth Unemployment by Race and Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>All Youth</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LOW INCOME YOUTH LESS LIKELY EMPLOYED

July 2020 Employment Rates Among Youth Ages 16-19, by Annual Family Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Family Income</th>
<th>Percentage Employed During July 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $20,000</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - 39,999</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000 - $59,999</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60,000 - 74,999</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 - 99,999</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 - 149,999</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+$150,000</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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“We will continue to prepare students for today’s constantly shifting job market, and we will help employers find the workers they need.”

President Donald J. Trump

“Congress came together to expand educational pathways and opportunities and give local communities greater flexibility in how best to prepare students for the jobs of today and tomorrow.”

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos
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Work-Based Learning

Much has been written in recent years about the need to provide greater work-based learning opportunities for high school students as an instructional strategy to better prepare students for college and the workforce.

Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) Students

The purpose of the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) Students (Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship grants) demonstration program is to support State efforts to expand and improve the transition of high school CTE Students to postsecondary education and employment through apprenticeships in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, including Computer Science, that begin during high school. Funds were awarded to the six states for a three-year project period. Abstracts of funded projects can be found below.

Project abstracts (PDF, 132 KB)
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