

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON STEM NETWORK

K-12, Higher Education and Business Working Together for a Dynamic Career Connected Learning System

WHAT IS THE STEM NETWORK?

The STEM Network is a transformative public-private initiative that seeks to provide students equitable access to:



Problem-based, STEM Learning with career and community connections



College and career-related learning with mentors and coaches, rigorous STEM dual-credit coursework with career connections



Work-based learning for high growth, high demand careers

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The STEM Network addresses Career Connected Learning strategies and workforce training gaps through:

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY:

Builds community support, provides collaborative regional oversight and develops clear protocols and core functions

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT, ALIGNMENT & EVALUATION:

Analyzes labor market, develops K-16 guided pathway aligned to high growth jobs; recruits and engages private and public sector organizations, maps and evaluates activities

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & QUALITY ASSURANCE:

Develops, pilots, measures and expands career experiences, STEM Industry problem-based learning and worksite learning experiences. Provide professional development for teachers

WHY: STEM JOBS ARE THE ECONOMIC DRIVERS IN SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON



SOFTWARE & INFO. TECHNOLOGY



COMPUTER SYSTEMS DESIGN



CLEAN TECHNOLOGY



CONSTRUCTION & ARCHITECTURE



SEMICONDUCTOR & OTHER ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS



LIFE SCIENCES



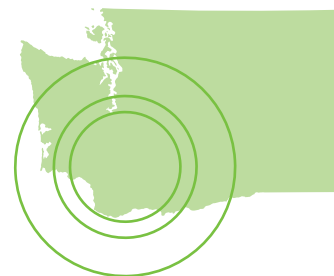
METALS & MACHINERY



MANUFACTURING



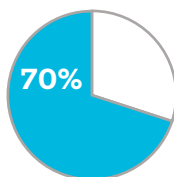
HEALTHCARE



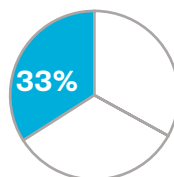
of these high demand jobs...

THE PROBLEM:

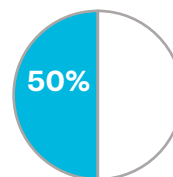
WE HAVE AN EDUCATION & TRAINING GAP



Over seventy percent require some post-secondary degree or certification



One third require a bachelor's degree or more



Nearly half require a one-to-two year credential / certification

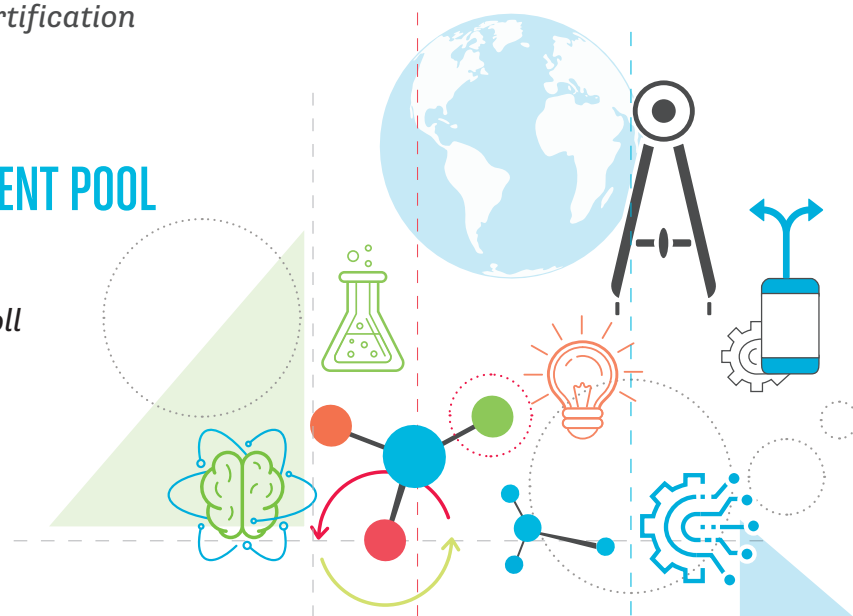
Our local businesses are
WITHOUT ACCESS TO A QUALIFIED TALENT POOL



Less than one half of the SW Washington students will enroll in post-secondary programs

and

Only one third will earn a post-secondary degree, credential or certification



THE SOLUTION: SW WASHINGTON STEM NETWORK

STEM Networks are an approach to education reform, as well as a strategy for economic development. Through work-based experiences and career connected learning opportunities, the SW Washington STEM Network is committed to ensuring all K-12 students in the region, especially under served populations, attain the necessary skills and foundation for career advancement.

THE NEED: TO ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Existing programs do not have the resources, infrastructure or technical support to ensure equitable access.

Education needs additional funding for CTE programs, staff, materials and professional development for worksite learning.

Our **students** need knowledge about career opportunities and access to career experiences.

The **system** needs to maximize industry participation with turnkey engagement opportunities.

Business and industry need support for mentor training, communication, job embedded activities and worksite learning experiences.

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