

# Why WBL Matters

How do we create value among  
stakeholders?

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# Quick Overview

- A Brief Personal Reflection
- A Standard Working Definition of Work-based Learning
- Why Does WBL Matter in Nevada?
- Why Does Work-based Learning **Really Matter** ?
- How Do We Effectively Communicate that WBL Matters?
- Let's Create Some Sample Dialogue!

# Quick Reflection

Think about one experience that changed what you believed was possible.



How do experiences, no matter how small, shape our thinking and action?

# Work -based Learning

Work-based Learning is not an event. It is a **learning strategy** that helps students test possibilities, build skills, develop relationships, and make informed next-step decisions.

**Awareness** tells me what exists.

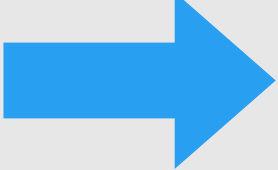
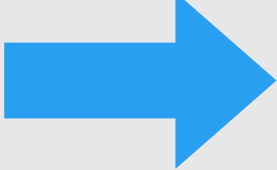
**Exploration** lets me test it.

**Preparation** allows me practice it.

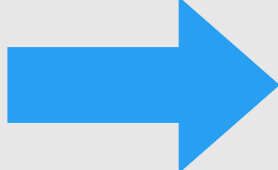
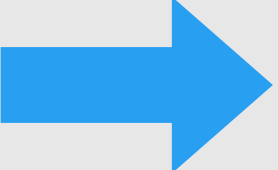
**Training & Feedback** allows me perform and refine it

**Confidence** in my choice allows me launch it.

# WBL Connects

Who Am I?  What Can I Do?  What Can I Become?

## Nevada WBL Continuum

Career Exploration  Career Readiness  Career Training

# In Nevada

Over the past decade, the Nevada Legislature has transformed work-based learning (WBL) from an informal option into a structured, statewide framework integrated with career and technical education (CTE)

## Senate Bill 66 (2017 )

Formally defined work-based learning in NRS 389.167

- Clear application process
- Credit granting requirements
- Reporting requirements

Nevada Department of Education issues standard guidance

## Expansion and Refinement (2019 –2021)

- **Funding Integration:** Aligned school funding discussions and grants with career readiness initiatives.
- **Assembly Bill 38 (2021)** : Refined statutory authority and guidelines under NRS 389.167 to scale high-quality programs and expand pathways connecting secondary students with regional industry needs

## Safety, Insurance, and Modernization (2023 –2025)

- **Assembly Bill 207 (2023)** : Permitted school districts and charter schools to purchase and maintain liability insurance specifically covering students participating in off-site work programs.
- **Assembly Bill 256 (2023)** : Streamlined background-check protocols for employer hosts and mandated workplace safety trainings.
- **Senate Bill 81 (2025)** : Reduced administrative burdens by eliminating redundant biennial reporting



# Nevada Department of Education

Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning & Education Options (CRALEO)

## Nevada's Perkins V Work-Based Learning Overview

**Strategic Goal 5:** Nevada aims to increase high-quality work-based learning opportunities—such as internships and apprenticeships—for secondary, postsecondary, and adult students statewide.

**Indicator 5S3** :Tracks the percentage of CTE concentrators who participate in structured work-based learning before graduation.

**Support and Training:** The Nevada Department of Education provides professional development for work-based learning coordinators across all 17 school districts to align programs with high-skill and in-demand occupations.

**Accountability** :Districts must track participation and meet state-determined performance levels, creating local improvement plans if targets are missed.

### 5S3 Perkins Performance Indicator State Determined Performance Level

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 2024-2025 | 9.0 %  |
| 2025-2026 | 14.0 % |
| 2026-2027 | 19.0 % |
| 2027-2028 | 24.0 % |



# Work-based Learning plays a vital role in the learning-to-earning ecosystem.

- Quality of Life
- Individual & Community Prosperity
- Workforce Development
- Economic Development
- Human Capital Development
- Talent Pipeline Development
- Career Development
- Skill Development
- Employability Development
- Postsecondary Readiness
- College & Career Readiness
- Talent Acquisition & Retention
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Industry–Education Partnerships
- Community Development
- Regional Workforce Alignment
- Equity & Access
- Employer Talent Development
- Future Workforce Preparation
- Lifelong Learning
- Credential & Degree Attainment
- Productivity & Competitiveness

# How Do We Communicate why WBL matters in a manner that builds value for them, and they want to participate?

**Build Awareness** : Who are the stakeholders?

**Explore & Consider** : What vocabulary that resonates with each stakeholder? What's the ask or the give?

**Preparation:** Tailor your message to the stakeholder.

**Training (Practice) & Feedback:** Make a new friend/acquaintance & share. Ask for & provide feedback.

**Evaluate:** How could targeted, curated messages positively impact outcomes for stakeholders?

# The Stakeholders

- Students
- Teachers, Librarians, School Staff
- Counselors
- Administrators & Coordinators
- Employers
- Business & Industry Partners
- Families
- Regulatory bodies
- Intermediaries & Workforce Agencies
- Community Organizations & Non-Profits



Elementary School---Middle School--High School  
Adult Education---Prison Education---Post Secondary Education

# Here's the Task:

Select a stakeholder to represent

Select a stakeholder to pitch

For school-based, pick a level

Write an elevator speech or pitch explaining why WBL matters

*A pitch or elevator speech should take 1-2 minutes to share  
Feel free to take some poetic license.*



## Examples :

- I'm a high school counselor talking to a reluctant senior.
- I'm a Coordinator talking to a high school parent.
- I'm an administrator talking with an employer.

# Wrapping Up: Please Share

Scan the QR Code--Leave it on the table--Take a picture  
& email it to me or text it to me



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