Arkansas has been leading the way in career pathway development for over a decade and was one of 10 states in <u>CLASP's Alliance for Quality Career Pathways</u>. Through the Alliance, state and local career pathway champions established six quality criteria for career pathway SYSTEM building. Arkansas' results proves the power of this sustained effort.



SHARED VISION & ESTABLISHED PARTNERS

Lasting partnership and sustained leadership from Dr. Karon Rosa

- AR Department of Higher Education
- Department of Workforce Services
- 22 community colleges and 3 technical centers

As agency or institution leadership changes, Dr. Rosa's goal is "to build relationships of mutual respect with the new players in the partnership."

SECTOR STRATEGIES & EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

- Employers are partners. CPI leadership is involved with state workforce board.
- Local partners design CPI programs with structured pathways that include industry-recognized credentials with regional labor market value.





COLLABORATION ON RESOURCES

TANF funds are awarded to colleges to support the staffing of counselors and other supports; however, the shared investments are contributed by all the partners:

- Students must apply for Pell grants;
- Local WIB may pay for fees, uniforms and transportation;
- Department of Child Care pays for child care;
- Department of Workforce Services provides case management;
- Department of Human Services provides food stamps and ArKids health insurance; and
- Colleges provide classrooms, labs, office space, faculty, assessments, and financial aid staff.

See AR CPI featured in slides 7-8 of CLASP's Career Pathway Braided Funding Toolkit PPT.

SUPPORTIVE POLICIES & PRACTICES

- Partners provide clear, consistent guidance on cross-system alignment and the allowable use of resources to support career pathways.
- Partners adjust existing policies and adopt new policies and internal structures to remove barriers and facilitate the development of AR pathways.





DATA AND SHARED MEASURES

- AR partners developed capacity for education and workforce development partners to coenroll participants and see impact of co-enrollment across data systems.
- AK partners use data for continuous improvement efforts.

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

- AR uses evidence-based practices of comprehensive participant supports, including academic supports
- AR state and local partners consider designed pathways to include industry-recognized credentials with regional labor market value.

