

## Delaware County Regional Career Education Partnership Goals and Objectives

The Delaware County Regional Career Education Partnership is a grant-funded project to increase career awareness opportunities for students, parents and educators and provide young people with the information they need to make informed career choices.

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>1. Provide high quality professional development for teachers, counselors and staff at organizations that work with Delaware County youth</b>	<i>STEM Educators' Forum</i> —Educators and youth services providers will interact with employers from healthcare and advanced manufacturing companies in the County. The Forum will also include an Education Panel to discuss educational preparation for careers available through the CTC, community college and 4-year degree programs. There will also be a tour of Delaware County Community College's new STEM facility.
	<i>STEM Educators in the Workplace</i> —Up to 25 educators and youth-serving staff will participate in one of four 1-day job shadows. Two will be held at advanced manufacturing companies and two will be held at local healthcare providers. Participants tour the employer's work site, learn about the company and get first-hand information on available STEM-related jobs.
	<i>West Chester University 3 E Institute Externship Program</i> —Educators will receive 3 graduate credits for a 35-hour business externship where they do job shadowing interviewing, short-term project work, research and other activities designed through the collaboration of the educators and workforce partners. At the conclusion of the externship, educators produce a report, video or other work describing their experience. The RCEP will provide marketing, employer recruitment and teacher scholarships to support the program.
<b>2. Expand our strategies to re-engage dropouts and other out-of-school youth.</b>	Leverage work being done in the City of Chester by the Chester Youth Collaborative to implement a "Ready by 21" initiative in coordination with the Mayor's Office and the Economic Development Department by working with the Workforce Preparedness Committee to develop and implement policies and strategies to support Chester youth, particularly those who are out of school. As part of this support, the Delaware County WIB will expand access to its KeyTrain/Career Ready 101 programs by offering them at a

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	<p>community-based organization, in addition to providing services through the Chester PA CareerLink® . KeyTrain/Career Ready 101 is a remediation program that supports the WorkKeys Work Readiness Credential being used by the DC WIB to prepare workers for education and training and to certify work readiness to employers. In coordination with the PA CareerLinks® we will also offer career planning and exploration activities, as developed through the Workforce Preparedness Committee. We are also working with the Chamber of Commerce to support the Chester Youth Collaborative in connecting young people to summer internships.</p>
<p><b>3. Embed CEW academic standards and high priority occupations into the curriculum and increase access to information on careers for Delaware County youth.</b></p>	<p><i>Customize CEW Toolkit Lesson Plans for Delaware County Teachers</i>—This includes producing a series of job shadow videos specific to regional high priority occupations and customizing CEW Toolkit lesson plans to include the videos and local labor market and business information. These will be maintained in an accessible online library.</p> <p><i>Online STEM Career Fair</i>—A week-long event held in conjunction with Chester, Montgomery and Bucks Counties, this online career fair will include webinars, teleconferencing and live video-streaming of employers and post-secondary and vocational educational opportunities. Students, parents, teachers and guidance counselors will be able to interact online with employers, colleges and CTC staff to learn more about opportunities. All activities will be recorded so that they can be viewed and used in the future. These will also be integrated into the customized CEW Toolkit lesson plans described above.</p>
<p><b>4. Connect young people with County leaders in a range of industries to develop leadership skills and career awareness.</b></p>	<p><i>Youth Leadership Academy</i>-- A joint project between the WIB, the Youth Council, the RCEP and the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce. Twenty-five 15 &amp; 16 year-olds meet with 20+ County leaders in a 2.5 day session to develop leadership skills and build career awareness.</p>