

Work Ready Community Matrix -

Definitions

| Term | Definition |
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| Work Ready or Career Ready Community | A self-defining community, county or regional partnership designated and certified by a third party as having a skilled and talented workforce which demonstrates community commitment to improve the employability of job seekers that businesses demand. |
| State/Region | State or region that is providing leadership for the Work Ready Community Initiative |
| Stage of Implementation | The stage of development for a Work Ready Community Initiative (planning, demonstration, implemented). For states/regions that are beyond planning and not yet at the demonstration phase, a date has been provided. |
| City Designation | Allows for designation of a city as a certified Work Ready Community |
| County Designation | Allows for designation of a county as a certified Work Ready Community |
| Regional Designation | Allows for designation of a region or grouping of multiple counties as a certified Work Ready Community |
| Certificates | Integrates the issuing of some Work Ready or Career Ready certificate as part of the initiative |
| Job Profiles | Integrates the process of job profiling (either free or for cost) for employers as part of the initiative |
| WIB Involvement | Includes either the state or local Workforce Investment Board as a strategic planning partner or for implementation of local action plans |
| Industry Partnerships | Includes the development and/or integration of industry partnerships as a strategic planning partner or for implementation of local action plans |
| Local Teams | Requires Work Ready Communities to develop a local team of partners that are representative of the community |
| Action Plans | Requires Work Ready Community local teams to develop a local action plan to meet designated benchmarks and for implementation of related projects. Action plans may be developed in coordination with state or regional leadership. |
| Soft Skills Training/Assessment | Includes some soft skills measure and/or training benchmarks for individuals in the community |
| Letters of Commitment | Requires Work Ready Communities to submit letters of commitment from members of the local team and/or strategic partners as part of the WR Community application process |
| Existing Workforce with Certificate | The share of the existing workforce that has obtained a Work Ready or Career Ready certificate. Is included as one of several criteria for Work Ready Community designation and recertification. |
| Job Seekers with Certificate | The share of job seekers that have obtained a Work Ready or Career Ready certificate. Is included as one of several criteria for Work Ready Community designation and recertification. |
| High School Graduates with Certificate | The share of High School Graduates that have obtained a Work Ready or Career Ready certificate. Is included as one of several criteria for Work Ready Community designation and recertification. |
| Workforce with 2-year Credential or Higher | The share of the workforce that has obtained a 2-year credential or higher level of educational attainment. Is included as one of several criteria for Work Ready Community designation and recertification. |
| High School Graduation Rate | Varies by state/region. Is included as one of several criteria for Work Ready Community designation and recertification. |
| Employers that Prefer or Require a Certificate | The percentage of employers who prefer or require a Work Ready or Career Ready certificate for recruitment and hiring |

* Note: All definitions are suggested for the purpose of discussion and are not meant to be viewed as finalized.