

# ***Employer Partners for Workforce Success in Northwest Indiana***



Show your support for advancing our region's education and skilled workforce goals by joining READY NWI and the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board in direct engagement with our schools as partners in education, training and informing our students about high quality jobs available in the region. Share your expertise and create rewarding opportunities for your company by choosing one or more actions you pledge to take to invest in our region's young adults.

**Check the areas you are willing to support.** We will contact you to put your pledge to work.

## ***Planning Partners***

- ☐ Provide information on hiring standards and processes of your company
- ☐ Provide information for relevant labor market information by responding to periodic surveys of needs, job vacancies, and job application processes to assist schools and students with career and academic planning
- ☐ Partner with education, economic development, and workforce development organizations in the region on grant applications to bring needed workforce resources to Northwest Indiana

## ***Communication Partners***

- ☐ Participate in career fairs, speaking engagements, and other showcases
- ☐ Host or serve as a sponsor for a career awareness event
- ☐ Visit a K-12 school and discuss your industry or host a student or counselor/teacher field trip to your company
- ☐ Provide information about your company's apprenticeship programs, tuition reimbursement plans, company training programs or other learning experience at regional college and career events
- ☐ Participate on a panel discussion to discuss skills needed for your company or industry sector
- ☐ Assist in creating an advocacy agenda to meet business needs for workers and participate in delivering the advocacy message to relevant government officials, civic leaders, and potential funding sources
- ☐ Sponsor events via purchase of tables, advertising, or other financial commitments

## ***Training and Education Partners***

- ☐ Recruit members of your organization who are willing to work with K-12 students as mentors or adjunct career advisors with the schools
- ☐ Serve on a curriculum review team with other employers while identifying student learning expectations for classes. Curriculum may include lesson plans for project-based learning related to your industry sector
- ☐ Serve as a reviewer or judge for school-based projects or student portfolios of work
- ☐ Contribute resources from your company to support education and training in the classroom: loaned equipment, loaned staff, sample training courses, and other assets
- ☐ Identify candidates among your own staff who would benefit from acquiring new credentials or completing college, and support their efforts through tuition reimbursement, time off, or other means
- ☐ Ask job applicants for specific credentials endorsed by the NWIWB and tested with employees (WorkKeys, National Career Readiness Certification, Work Ethics Certification, and Expanded High School Transcript)
- ☐ Provide a short term, first work experience for a high school student in a safe environment
- ☐ Provide internships, try-out employment, part-time jobs and on-the-job training opportunities

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

For further information or to return form, contact Sandra Alvarez at [salvarez@innovativeworkforce.com](mailto:salvarez@innovativeworkforce.com) or by phone at 219.462.2940, extension 33, or fax at 219.465.6860