The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry awarded 18 entities BEP Grants to support the Commonwealth’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Combined State Plan. The grants support Governor Wolf’s vision of “jobs that pay, schools that teach, and government that works” by encouraging creativity and innovation in achieving one or more of the following goals for workforce development depicted in the WIOA Combined State Plan.

- These programs increase awareness of in-demand technical careers for students, parents, guardians, teachers, and school faculty.

- The Partnerships connect schools (teachers and faculty), employers, and students with the goal of providing career-related experiences and exposure through soft skills development, internships, workplace shadowing, career mentoring and career tours to increase opportunities for all youth to participate in work based learning and similar experiences.

Grants were awarded utilizing WIOA state set aside funds. A list of grantees and brief summaries of their projects follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Berks County Workforce Development Board</td>
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<td>Bucks County Workforce Development Board</td>
<td>$94,532.24</td>
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<td>Central County Workforce Development Board</td>
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<td>Chester County Workforce Development Board</td>
<td>$150,000.00</td>
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<td>Lackawanna County Workforce Development Board</td>
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<td>Lancaster County Workforce Development Board</td>
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<td>Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Board</td>
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<td>Northern Tier Workforce Development Board</td>
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**TOTAL** $2,000,000.00
Grantee: Berks County Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Building Career Pathways to help students stay and thrive in Berks County
Amount Awarded: $115,544.00
Location: Berks County
Project Summary: This project proposes to employ an innovative multi-faceted approach to opening career choice opportunities to middle and high school students. By directly linking educators, employers, and workforce and economic development partners, the initiative will amplify and coordinate programs designed to educate and enhance Berks County K-12 teacher and student (and parent) awareness of exposure to diverse, but realistic, career opportunities in the Greater Berks County region. Students and teachers will also come to better understand the factors employers consider when evaluating candidates for employment.

Grantee: Bucks County Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Career Exploration, Education, and Preparation Project
Amount Awarded: $94,532.24
Location: Bucks County
Project Summary: The mission is to increase awareness and opportunities of middle and high school students, educators, and parents of high priority careers and job ready skills in manufacturing, healthcare, and in-demand industries in Bucks County. The BCWDB will pursue public-school districts grades 7-12.

Grantee: Central Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Building the Business & Education Ecosystem in Central PA
Amount Awarded: $100,000.00
Location: Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union Counties
Project Summary: This proposal will help to build the business and education ecosystem in Central PA by supporting new opportunities to connect local businesses with school districts to promote job opportunities and career readiness. It will also support the linking and expansion of existing initiatives that increase awareness of in-demand careers for students, parents, and teachers.

Grantee: Chester County Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Business Education Partnership
Amount Awarded: $150,000.00
Location: Chester County
Project Summary: This project will connect employers, educators, and parents to innovative and inspiring activities, workshops and programs created to provide career awareness and readiness activities designed to increase cognizance of in-demand technical careers to 1,200 Chester County students.

Grantee: Lackawanna County Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Strategic Unified Projects Enabling Results (SUPER)
Amount Awarded: $108,515.91
Location: Lackawanna County
Project Summary: The goal or purpose of this project is to reach approximately 4,000 intermediate and high school students and educators with emphasis on the provision of career information including business representation presentations; dissemination of career-related, age appropriate materials; instruction in employability and soft skills; administration of interest inventories; peer to peer interaction;
strengthening community involvement; addressing math skill deficiencies; job shadowing; and business field trips/tour.

**Grantee:** Lancaster County Workforce Development Board  
**Grant Title:** Expanding Business-Education Partnership Activities and STEM Career Awareness in Lancaster County  
**Amount Awarded:** $85,700.00  
**Location:** Lancaster County  
**Project Summary:** Lancaster County Proposes to use resources from the Business-Education Partnership Grant to increase the scale of the existing projects; increase exposure of parents, educators, and students to career and technical education opportunities; add new work based learning options to the existing system; increase the connections between local school districts and the PA CareerLink of Lancaster County; and work with specific local companies to build and strengthen business-education linkages with Lancaster County School Districts.

**Grantee:** Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Board  
**Grant Title:** Best Practices in Education!  
**Amount Awarded:** $143,676.00  
**Location:** Lehigh, Northampton Counties  
**Project Summary:** The objective of this project is to establish a clearinghouse of best practices showcasing Lehigh Valley's participating K-14 educational focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, computer technology, and work readiness, aligned to Pennsylvania's Career Education and Work Standards.

**Grantee:** Montgomery County Workforce Development Board  
**Grant Title:** Business Education Partnership in Montgomery County  
**Amount Awarded:** $61,318.35  
**Location:** Montgomery County  
**Project Summary:** The purpose is this project is to provide the network, information and training relative to the implementation of Career Education Work Standards for participating schools/technical schools and their students, by involving the business community, parents, post-secondary institutions, and participating agencies.

**Grantee:** North Central Workforce Development Board  
**Grant Title:** North Central Business and Education Connect  
**Amount Awarded:** $128,803.03  
**Location:** Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter Counties  
**Project Summary:** The objective of this project is to ensure that youth in the six-county region are aware of the career opportunities in the area and understand the education and skills needs of these while increasing the regions outreach to additional community partners, students, and the WIOA Youth Provider

**Grantee:** Northern Tier Workforce Development Board  
**Grant Title:** Northern Tier Business Education Partnership Career Coaches
Amount Awarded: $138,434.00  
Location: Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming Counties  
Project Summary: This project will enable students to make informed career choices to succeed through a combination of career focused education and interaction with employers while leveraging WIOA, Youth Committee, PA CareerLink and other funding wherever applicable.

Grantee: Philadelphia Works  
Grant Title: Building Pipelines to Apprenticeships  
Amount Awarded: $99,923.00  
Location: Philadelphia  
Project Summary: This project will connect 20 Manufacturing CTE High School Seniors to one-day-a-week internship for a period of 7 months and enhance learning opportunities for the interns through monthly professional development. Provide counselling to the interns on their individual school to employment or post-secondary education transition plan in concert with the employers and the District. Successfully transition 18-20 students through graduation to either pre-apprenticeship, vocational skills training, employment, and/or postsecondary education opportunities. Fulfill the employers' expectations for the value of the experience in developing a pipeline of youth for their high-demand entry-level opportunities.

Grantee: South Central Workforce Development Board  
Grant Title: SCPaWorks BEP Connections  
Amount Awarded: $128,550.00  
Location: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry, York Counties  
Project Summary: The objectives of this project are to bring together the existing Intermediary Organizations within SCPaWorks eight-county region to create a strong foundation network for career planning for youth to share their experiences and best practices to strengthen each partner's program and to create a career planning partnership mode for new start up programs within the region.

Grantee: Southern Alleghenies Workforce Development Board  
Grant Title: The Future is now. Creating the Future by connecting Educators, Students, and Employers in Partnership.  
Amount Awarded: $70,373.00  
Location: Blair, Bedford, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset Counties  
Project Summary: This project proposes to enhance student career awareness and understanding of the local labor market through innovative activities designed to increase work readiness skills and awareness of high priority careers in Southern Alleghenies Workforce Region through partnership and collaboration with the education/business community. Provide local educators with the opportunity to gain knowledge and insights from local employers' needs, understanding of skills gaps and corresponding opportunities for enhancements in curriculum. Extend opportunity to employers to share their needs with students and work with education partners to prepare the future workforce.

Grantee: Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board  
Grant Title: Southwest Corner Business Education Partnership  
Amount Awarded: $100,000.00  
Location: Beaver, Greene, Washington Counties
Project Summary: The objectives of this grant will be to support the commonwealth’s efforts to define and implement strategies that will increase the quality and scope of career preparation activities available to Pennsylvania youth. To strengthen partnerships with all high schools and Career & Technology Center's represented in the local workforce development area. To link youth, educators, partners, employers and community partners together to develop a streamlined and informative network of information and services. To establish replicable strategies that will align with local industry needs and local school districts' K-12 Counseling Plans.

Grantee: Tri-County Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Business Education Partnership
Amount Awarded: $179,662.97
Location: Armstrong, Butler, Indiana Counties
Project Summary: The partnership will connect schools, employers, parents, and students to provide career-related experiences and opportunities through employer tours, summer camps, workplace shadowing, career mentoring, etc. Objectives include the following: identify gaps between education and employers in preparing the emerging workforce for regional career and employment opportunities; support capacity building to ensure business and educational partnership has the ability to support its mission and to attain sustainability; and provide career awareness to youth linked to regional high demand occupations

Grantee: Three Rivers Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: From High School to Career
Amount Awarded: $85,700.00
Location: Allegheny County
Project Summary: The project objectives are: 1. High School Collaborative: Augment existing partnerships between businesses, schools, and community partners to provide alternative to the college-for-all mentality and a talent pipeline into entry-level career track jobs at local businesses, including PNC Bank, FedEx, and University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). 2. Health Careers Academy: A demonstration project that creates a career track for students interested in the medical field through a comprehensive partnership with Career and Tech Centers (CTCs), Community College of Allegheny County and UPMC. 3. Building a Pipeline: Increase early career exploration for current Career and Tech Ed (CTE) students and expands awareness to 9th grade students and below through Career Symposia.

Grantee: West Central Workforce Development Board
Grant Title: Business Education Partnership
Amount Awarded: $100,000.00
Location: Mercer, Lawrence Counties
Project Summary: West Central Workforce Development Board (WCWDB) staff will act as an intermediary to convene local partners to provide career awareness services and activities to high school students and connect them to work-based learning opportunities with local employers. The BEP grant is expected to provide direct services to over 1,000 high school students, parents teachers and counselors.
Grantee: Westmoreland/Fayette Workforce Development Board

Grant Title: Business Education Partnership

Amount Awarded: $109,267.50

Location: Fayette, Westmoreland Counties

Project Summary: Objectives of this project are to expand the Business-Education Partnership that improves education and enhances the business' competitiveness. This project will support the development of a Work and Learn Model Continuum that prepares high-school students for career and post-secondary education through work-based learning opportunities; support K-12 career awareness activities for students, teachers, and parents; and serve 700 K-12 students in Westmoreland and Fayette Counties.