

Challenge

- Over one million jobs will be available in Indiana over the next 10 years.
- 30,000 job openings per year require an industry-recognized certificate/certification in addition to a high school diploma.
- 13,500 certificates are earned annually in Indiana in either high school or post-secondary, but only 9,200 of these certificates are in high-demand, high-wage (HDHW) fields.

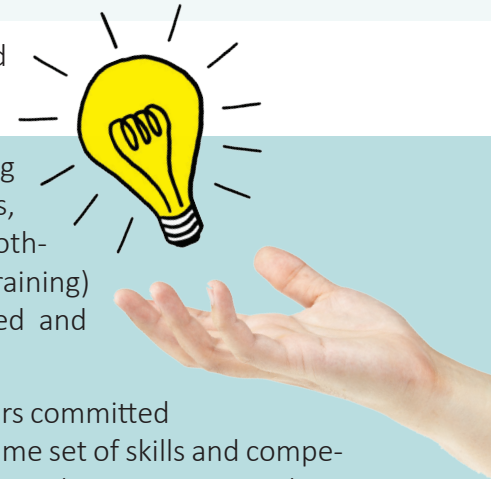
Vision

- To create a series of Innovation Network around the State of Indiana driven by employer needs

Opportunity

Innovation Network is a collaborative effort among local employers, educators, community organizations, workforce and economic development partners, and others to increase skills (in-demand trades that require training) and talent (qualified applicants who are unemployed and underemployed) in the Hoosier community.

These efforts align with education and training providers committed to leveraging shared resources, teaching against the same set of skills and competencies, and serving all Hoosiers (including secondary students, post-secondary students, adult education students, and incumbent workers), while avoiding duplication of efforts and fostering collaboration around this work.



Intended Outcomes of Innovation Network:

- Improve alignment of future (projected) employer demand and current and future workforce (talent) supply
- Filling current job openings with skilled workforce
- Provide Hoosiers with the opportunity to pursue high-wage high-demand training that is easily accessible and relevant to employer needs in their county/geographic area
- Increase the number of high school graduates, adult learners, and incumbent workers with a high-wage high-demand industry recognized credential
- Establish a network of shared resources to support network to fill jobs in high wage and high demand occupations

Sector partnerships, which are partnerships of multiple employers within a **critical industry**, are identified by the immediate occupational demands of the state that can be filled quickly with qualified individuals. Sector partnerships are the framework behind innovation network.



Members of the innovation network are eligible for the Skill UP! Indiana Grant, which invests in businesses to expand their training. Since its modest start two years ago, nearly \$19 million in grant funding has been provided to support community partnerships in developing youth and adult education and training opportunities aligning with employer needs.