



SCHOOL-TO-CAREER IN CALIFORNIA

In November 1996, the National School-to-Work Office awarded California a School-to-Work implementation grant. California received approximately \$130 million over five years to assist in the development of the state's School-to-Career system. The funds are intended to serve as venture capital for the state to invest in systemic educational reform. They also are intended to provide incentives for local partnerships to form and collaboratively fund ongoing School-to-Career efforts in coordination with other education and workforce initiatives. Some grant dollars are used for strategic statewide activities such as technical assistance, communications and outreach, regional coordination and teacher preparation.

School-to-Career in California supports reforms in the educational system that include the integration of school-based and work-based learning; the use of contextual, applied teaching strategies; and the opportunity for students to choose career-related coursework and workplace experiences, with equal access for all students.

The vision for School-to-Career in California is that every student will develop a love of learning and be fully prepared for:

- Rewarding high-wage, high-skill careers;
- Productive citizenship; and
- Personal and professional growth.

California's School-to-Career initiative is designed to offer all California students:

- Exposure to a broad range of career opportunities;
- Access to relevant and rigorous educational programs that help them achieve their career aspirations; and
- Opportunities to benefit from workplace learning experiences.

Local Partnerships

Grant awards by the state to local partnerships provide short-term resources to assist local partnerships in implementing strategic School-to-Career activities that can be sustained after the grant funds expire. Local partnerships plan and conduct strategic activities to integrate School-to-Career principles throughout the educational system (K-18) and connect school-based and work-based learning. Local partnerships promote community support for continued School-to-Career activities and link efforts across education segments and with economic development, workforce development, youth development, Welfare-to-Work and One-Stop Career Centers.

In August 2000, California passed legislation that provides for continued support of local School-to-Career partnerships (*CA Education Code Chapter 17, Section 53080*).

Regulatory Authority

School-to-Career in California is jointly administered by the California Employment Development Department, the California Department of Education and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

For more information visit:

California School-to-Career

<http://www.stc.ca.gov>

California Law, Education and Labor Code

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>

This factsheet is part of the Work-Based Learning Toolkit and is intended to provide an overview of relevant quality, safety and legal issues relating to work-based learning placements at the time of publication.

It is not intended to provide comprehensive information nor to serve as a substitute for appropriate legal advice.

To access the complete toolkit, visit www.stc-clearinghouse.com or www.nww.org