

Northeastern NC Career Pathways
Local Pathway Implementation Certification
– NCWorks Career Centers

The Northeastern Career Pathway model is a two-level process. The first level of work addresses the pathway development criteria from a regional stakeholder perspective. Employer identified skills and competencies required for specific health care careers is the focus of this work. A strategic planning committee consisting of employers, educators, workforce development staff and other stakeholders develop opportunities for adults, with options for multiple points of entry and exit, that lead to the acquisition of the identified skills and competencies needed for health career success. An advantage of this regional approach, especially for large rural areas like ours, is that it broadens the participation and input across all of the stakeholder groups, and raises the bar for creating and sustaining high quality, comprehensive pathways. The success of this effort by the Northeast is evidenced in meeting the standards of the NCWorks Certification process.

In the second level of the career pathway process, the focus moves from regional pathway development to **local pathway implementation**. This process is guided by the formation of **local teams** consisting of representatives from the local community college, workforce development board, K-12 education agencies (LEAs) and local health care employers working together to 1) modify the regional pathway to meet local needs, and 2) develop and execute an implementation plan that aligns with the regional strategies. NCWorks Career Centers contribute to the local implementation process by serving as a portal to connect non-traditional adults to multiple career pathways opportunities as well as stackable credentials. The Northeastern Local Career Pathway Implementation Certification is designed to recognize local partnerships that not only develop but also **implement** high quality pathways. Each NCWorks Center, upon successfully meeting the criteria established by the Northeastern NC Career Pathways partnership, will be awarded a framed dual certification in recognition for meeting both the criteria of the NCWorks Pathway Certification Program and the Local Northeastern NC Career Pathways Implementation Certification Program.

NCWorks Career Center - addition to career pathways local implementation

NCWorks Career Centers are expected to be the lead agency for promoting and delivering career awareness, career guidance, and employability skills to provide businesses with a skilled workforce. In the initial implementation process, NCWorks Career Centers were not awarded local implementation status as part of the larger group. To remedy that, NCWorks Career Centers in areas which have already received local implementation status are invited to apply for implementation. As a part of the local implementation certification application review process, the review team will consult with the WDB Director and the NCWorks Regional Operations Director to determine the readiness of NCWorks Centers in the local partnership to receive implementation certification.

Pathway:

NCWorks Career Center:

NCWorks Career Center Manager:

NCWorks Career Center Champion:

1. Provide documentation of local implementation meetings attended by the manager and/or Champion. Document input provided during the planning process and/or since the certification.
2. Document meetings/training provided by manager and/or Champion to staff, specific to pathway.
3. Provide documentation of collaboration with local implementation partners specific to the pathway.