



educational service center
of Central Ohio

Business Advisory Council

2021-2022



A Continued Focus & Investment

As the state of Ohio and Central Ohio region continue to work through COVID-19-related matters, there also has been a focus on how to help individuals and communities thrive during and after the pandemic. This past summer, Governor Mike DeWine signed into law the state budget bill (HB110) for fiscal years 2022 and 2023. A large portion of that legislation is focused on investing in Ohioans to support a thriving economy and much of that is directed toward children.

A focus of the budget was the development of a new K-12 school funding formula. This also included increased funding for schools by \$1.7 billion as compared to the previous biennium. The increased support for schools and districts will help provide more programming to meet students' social and emotional needs by including student wellness and success inside of its base cost for all students. The new school funding formula includes dedicated funding for Student Wellness and Success, supporting the Governor's goal of ensuring that schools prioritize these important services for kids. These services, including physical and mental health services, after-school programming, and family supports are vital to the success of kids and are built into the formula.

The budget legislation also focused on growing a skilled workforce to help individuals upskill and find success in new careers, ensuring businesses can access the talent needed in today's economy. While assisting Ohioans in accessing high-demand, quality-wage careers, these initiatives are also intended to ensure businesses have access to the talent needed in today's economy while making targeted workforce investments in rural and urban parts of the state. Specifically, \$41 million is being invested to allow over 70,000 students to receive workforce credentials for in-demand jobs even before high school graduation while assisting high schools with creating programs to offer industry-recognized credentialing programs.

Locally, One Columbus has released its strategic plan for the 11-county region and a major focus of that is directed toward developing its workforce. A particular point of emphasis is being placed on disconnects between demographics and outcomes and working to eliminate these disparities. The plan states the region must take action above and beyond what has traditionally been done. Indicators of success will include measures such as median wages, racial employment and labor participation, and community measures of housing opportunity, educational attainment, healthcare disparities, and the physical and economic mobility of the workforce.

It is important that the Business Advisory Council continue to follow the lead of its state and regional leaders, through investment and vision, to ensure its children have access to equitable opportunities for success while also providing our local businesses the talent necessary to sustain continued growth.



Regional Alignment

The Business Advisory Council has worked and aligned itself closely with the Central Ohio Compact and its goals for several years. The Compact reports that it has seen progress in the areas of increasing student access and attainment, collaborative cross-sector engagement, and a deepened focus on more equitable outcomes for working adults, low-income and first-generation college students, and students of color.



55 education partners

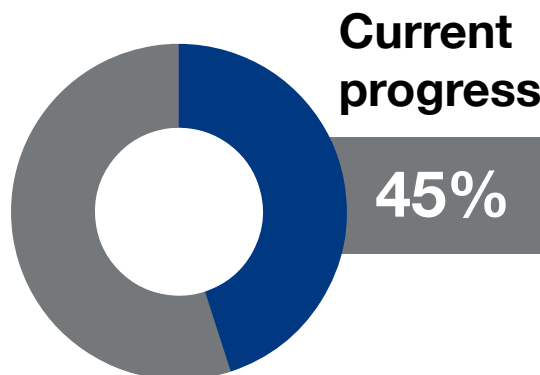


25 industry & nonprofit partners

**Central Ohio
attainment goal**

65%

“...the Compact has determined that 65 percent of Central Ohio’s population will need a postsecondary credential by 2025.”



To meet the overarching attainment goal, the Compact is guided by four strategic priorities to focus upon, each of which to be viewed through a diversity, equity and inclusion lens.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Student Aspiration
& Access

Alignment & Academic
Preparation

Alternative Pathways
For Adult Learners

Affordability

These priorities focus the Compact's work on several goals, including:

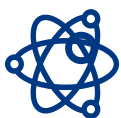
- Dramatically increasing the number of students earning a postsecondary credential;
- Ensuring that all college-bound high school graduates are college ready;
- Increasing the number of high school graduates with credit toward a degree or certificate;
- Increasing the number of community college graduates earning bachelor's degrees through pathways to completion;
- Providing consistent, accurate and timely communication with students and families to eliminate uncertainty and ensure success at the college level;
- Employing specific strategies for working adults, low-income and first-generation college students, and students of color;
- Advancing the region's need for a highly skilled workforce, including an emphasis on STEM fields, by aligning with regional workforce and economic development efforts;
- Managing the costs of education for students, families and taxpayers.

Collaborating with Employers

It is clear that the work and goals of the Central Ohio Compact are directly aligned with the purpose and responsibilities of the state-required business advisory councils, and its Workforce Advisory Council puts a clear focus on those goals. The Compact's Workforce Advisory Council brings together Central Ohio employer partners to anticipate infrastructure, program, and policy needs aligned with the group's goal to meet local employer demand with a highly skilled workforce. It represents a wide spectrum of industry sectors across the region, including financial services, insurance, health care, law, customer care, logistics and distribution, information technology, hospitality, and education – and its focus is on developing a regional strategy to open opportunities for all to participate in the emerging economy.

Based on this understanding, the ESC coordinates the work of its own business advisory council in concert with school districts to create efficiencies in meeting requirements of state law, while also continuing this great work and aligning to the goals and strategies of the Compact and its council.

5 Key Sectors | Columbus Economy



Technology



Logistics



Manufacturing



HQ & Business
Services



Healthcare

Central Ohio Workforce Partners



Benefits of the ESC's Business Advisory Council

Business advisory councils have been required by law since 1995 and can provide benefits for every Ohio school district. With the addition of business advisory standards in HB49, a renewed emphasis and focus at the state level has been placed on the importance of establishing active business advisory councils and emphasizing that their work is critical in today's economy.

The Council will advise local school districts on changes in the economy and job market by:

- Identifying new and emerging careers
- Offering districts recommendations on needed knowledge, skills and competencies
- Advocating for effective curriculum
- Offering work-based learning opportunities
- Making recommendations on facilities and equipment needed to teach work-based skills
- Supporting local school districts by offering suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and educators



Business Advisory Council Participants

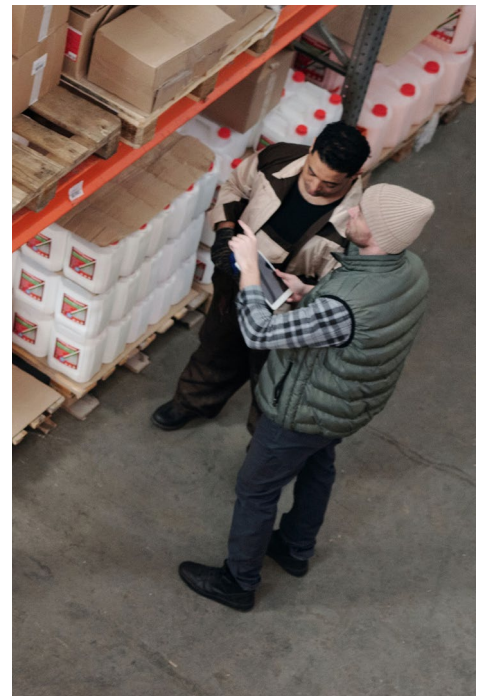


What's Next?

The 2021-22 Business Advisory Council will focus mainly on the three areas below.

- The delineation of employment skills and the development of curriculum to instill these skills;
- Changes in the economy and job market and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available;
- Suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and education personnel.

In order to accomplish these goals, the ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council (BAC) meets on a quarterly basis. This school year's meetings are scheduled for October 21, December, February, and Spring. For the spring meeting, the BAC members will participate in the Central Ohio Compact Summit. During the remaining meetings, the BAC will serve in an advisory capacity to support the continued development of a Central Ohio regional platform for work-based learning (WBL) experiences. These experiences will cover the range of the work-based learning continuum from career awareness to postsecondary career training and education. A parent awareness and WBL work group will also continue to function to carry out action steps and create tools/resources to accomplish the goals of the BAC. The WBL work group will focus on continuing to build and expand pre-apprenticeship programs across the region. The parent awareness group will focus on developing regional collaborative events, social media materials, and tools and resources for career awareness.



In addition, to inform the BAC on changes in the economy, information will be shared on the impact of COVID-19 on our regional job market and economy. A review of progress toward the BAC's goals will be shared as well as time provided for BAC partners to collaborate in order to develop effective solutions to the challenges that the pandemic has brought to the most in-demand occupations. The ESC's Success Network will also support the work of the BAC by providing technical assistance to school districts for industry credentialing, the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness seal, virtual WBL opportunities, pathway development, instructional practices, and work-based learning opportunities. This support will happen through regional meetings, training sessions and on-site district support, as well as e-newsletters, a website and social media.



Resources

- ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council www.escco.org/programs-services/businessadvisory-council/
- ESC of Central Ohio Business Advisory Council | Parent & Community Awareness <https://www.escco.org/BACParentCommunityAwareness.aspx>
- Central Ohio Compact www.centralohiocompact.org
- Columbus State Community College: Business www.csc.edu/for-business
- ESC of Central Ohio: Success Network www.escco.org/programs-services/college-and-careerreadiness/success-network
- MORPC: insight2050 Report www.getinsight2050.org/the-report/
- Ohio Department of Education: Business Advisory Councils in Ohio Schools www.education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Operating-Standards/Business-Advisory-Council-Operating-Standards.pdf
- Ohio Department of Education: Ohio Business Advisory Councils – Next Steps www.education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Operating-Standards/BAC-Guidance-to-Districts.pdf.aspx
- Ohio Laws & Rules: Ohio Revised Code 3313.82: Business Advisory Councils www.codes.ohio.gov/orc/3313.82
- One Columbus <https://columbusregion.com/onecolumbus/>
- Success Bound <https://successbound.ohio.gov/>

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