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OF THE STATES

Career Pathways for Student Success

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LESN Seminar on Workforce Development and Career
Readiness

Your education policy team.

Date

Who we are

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.



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What we do

We believe in the power of learning from experience and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.



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How we do it

REPORT

RESEARCH



CONVENE

COUNSEL



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Clarification of Terms

For purposes of this presentation...

“Career pathway” = aligned HS + PS courses, may provide opportunities for WBL, resulting in industry-recognized certificate, licensure or credential.



Drivers for Career Pathways Policymaking

Concerns about:

- ✓ Labor pool to fill current/projected jobs
- ✓ Misalignment between HS and PS programs, industry needs
- ✓ Growing # of jobs requiring credential beyond HS
- ✓ Need to progress toward ambitious state-set PS attainment goals



So What Are States Doing?

- ✓ Piloting new programs
- ✓ Incentivizing attainment of industry-recognized licensure, credentials
- ✓ Providing funding, structures to develop new programs

Piloting New Programs

Utah Aerospace Pathways program

- Launched fall 2015
- Developed
 - With \$400,000 grant
 - In partnership of state govt., ed. leaders, aerospace industry
- Starting in two school districts



Incentivizing Attainment of Industry-Recognized Licensure, Credentials

Carrots for districts:

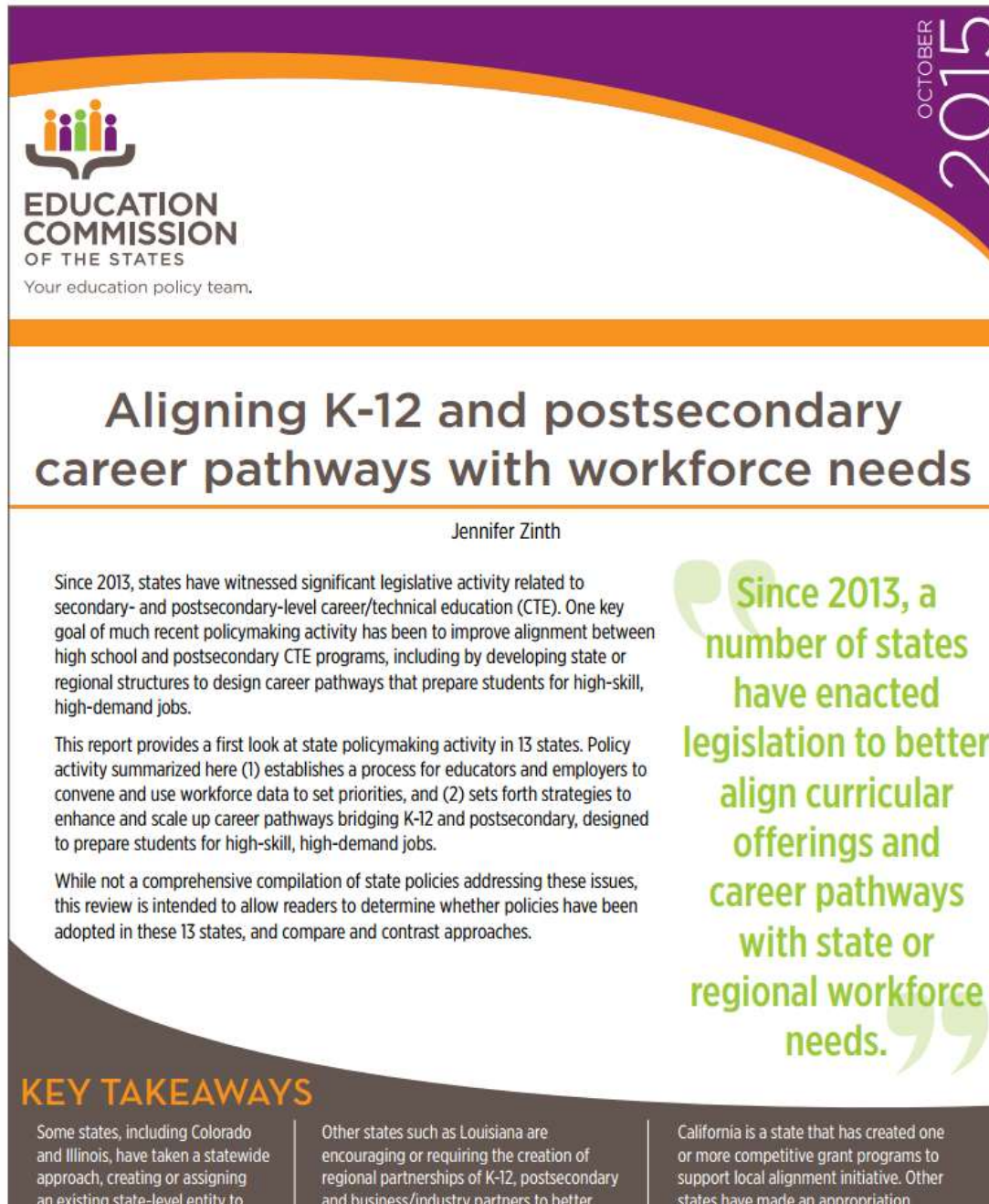
- Kansas: Excel in CTE


Carrots for students:

- Require CTE credential for CTE honors diploma



Providing Funding, Structures to Develop New Programs




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Aligning K-12 and postsecondary career pathways with workforce needs

Jennifer Zinth

Since 2013, states have witnessed significant legislative activity related to secondary- and postsecondary-level career/technical education (CTE). One key goal of much recent policymaking activity has been to improve alignment between high school and postsecondary CTE programs, including by developing state or regional structures to design career pathways that prepare students for high-skill, high-demand jobs.

This report provides a first look at state policymaking activity in 13 states. Policy activity summarized here (1) establishes a process for educators and employers to convene and use workforce data to set priorities, and (2) sets forth strategies to enhance and scale up career pathways bridging K-12 and postsecondary, designed to prepare students for high-skill, high-demand jobs.

While not a comprehensive compilation of state policies addressing these issues, this review is intended to allow readers to determine whether policies have been adopted in these 13 states, and compare and contrast approaches.

Since 2013, a number of states have enacted legislation to better align curricular offerings and career pathways with state or regional workforce needs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Some states, including Colorado and Illinois, have taken a statewide approach, creating or assigning an existing state-level entity to	Other states such as Louisiana are encouraging or requiring the creation of regional partnerships of K-12, postsecondary and business/industry partners to better	California is a state that has created one or more competitive grant programs to support local alignment initiative. Other states have made an appropriation
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Providing Funding, Structures to Develop New Programs

Three common structures:

- Assignment of statewide entity to lead pathways development (*Colorado, Utah*)
- Voluntary development of regional alliances (*California, many other states*)
- Mandatory development of regional alliances (*Indiana*)

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