



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Quick Fact Check (True or False)

- Workforce System Strategies does not endorse programs and policies.
True: Workforce System Strategies does not endorse or recommend any programs, policies, or practices. Instead, resource profiles present a broad range of currently available information on workforce strategies that meet our criteria.
- Workforce System Strategies conducts research.
False: Workforce System Strategies reviews and summarizes existing research and supporting resources that meet our criteria. We do not conduct our own research studies.
- Workforce System Strategies resources have gone through a systematic review.
False: Workforce System Strategies does not, at this time, establish evidence standards or systematically review studies or other resources to determine whether they use a rigorous study design or show evidence of effectiveness for a particular strategy.
- Workforce System Strategies resources are always best practices.
False: The resources profiled on Workforce System Strategies do not necessarily represent effective strategies or best practices. Rather, we strive to present a broad range of currently available information that meets our criteria, whether the research or peer expertise indicates positive, neutral, or negative results. You will need to decide whether and how a resource can best inform your strategies.

General

- What is Workforce System Strategies?
Workforce System Strategies is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Labor administered by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA). As an integral part of the technical assistance strategy, Workforce System Strategies provides users with an improved starting point for making informed decisions as they work toward improving outcomes for job seekers and employers. Workforce System Strategies represents ETA's effort to identify a range of potential strategies that are informed by research evidence or peer expertise.
- How can I use Workforce System Strategies resources?
Workforce System Strategies is a tool to help users make evidence-informed decisions. The information on Workforce System Strategies helps you determine whether a particular strategy or program will meet your needs.



- What are profiles?
Workforce System Strategies develops profiles of resources to describe research or a tool that can help inform decisions. Profiles include a summary of the resource, the level of methodology, major findings and recommendations, the workforce topics applicable to the resource, and target population and location information. Resources are included if they meet Workforce System Strategies criteria, but inclusion does not imply endorsement.
- How should I use the website to find what I am looking for?
To organize Workforce System Strategies resources, we developed a taxonomy, or classification, of the resources into categories. This gives users a framework to locate our resources. The taxonomy has seven main categories to select or use as a filter on the website search feature:
 - Topics
 - Programs
 - Target population
 - Geographic location
 - Industry sector
 - Type of methodology
 - Content type

You can also search for individual strategies by using a combination of any of the seven components of the taxonomy in a filtered search, or you can insert your own term(s) into the [search box](#).
- How can I sign up for Workforce System Strategies emails to find out about new resources and additions to the site?
You can register through Workforce GPS to stay up to date on resources and receive [weekly e-lets](#) from Workforce System Strategies highlighting the new resources posted that week or visit [What's New](#) on our website.
- How can I contact Workforce System Strategies?
We welcome your feedback! Questions and comments can be submitted via the online [contact form](#) (sign-in is required).
- How can I recommend a resource to be included in the Workforce System Strategies?
*If you identify a resource that fits our criteria and has not been included in Workforce System Strategies, **please send us a [nomination](#)** (sign-in is required). We will consider all submissions and include as many resources as we can that meet our criteria.*
- How does Workforce System Strategies select news items?
News items reflect current events relevant to workforce professionals and highlighted profiles in our collection that are related to the topic.



Resources

- What is a resource?
A resource is a study or supporting documentation included in the Workforce System Strategies collection. Resources are the bases for profiles.

- How are resources identified and selected?
Potential resources are identified through:
 - *Literature searches of relevant databases, journals, and publications, and*
 - *Nominations from subject matter experts, practitioners, and researchers.*

- What are the criteria for inclusion?
After potential resources are identified, they are evaluated against and selected for inclusion in Workforce System Strategies based on four criteria. The resource must:
 1. *Be either a third-party evaluation, performance report, or strategy brief;*
 2. *Have a primary focus on one or more workforce development topics in the ETA taxonomy, or organizational structure;*
 3. *Provide insights relevant to decisions typically made at the state or local level of the workforce system; and*
 4. *Be published, generally, within the past five years, except for experimental or quasi-experimental (Level 1) studies, which are included for the past 10 years and sometimes more.*

- How do I know whether a resource examined a program, practice, or strategy in a context similar to my own?
The context of the resource is included in the study profile. Profile information includes target populations, states/territories, and programs/funding streams.