



# Coalition for Career Development

The Coalition for Career Development is committed to **making career readiness a central focus of American education**. We believe that providing all learners with high-quality career development would greatly improve the **effectiveness** and **efficiency** of our education and workforce development systems, better **meet the needs of employers** for a skilled workforce, elevate the **dignity of all work** and help far more young people achieve the **American Dream**.

On February 22, 2016, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation and twelve other leading organizations held a national convening that examined how to make career development a central priority in our education and workforce development systems. Over 200 leaders from business, education, government and philanthropy attended this meeting, held at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Together they formulated eight bold ideas for moving forward, one of which was to form a broad, cross-sector coalition to advance this agenda: the Coalition for Career Development.

## Why Career Development?

**\$1.4** trillion

in student debt. The average amount per borrower is \$30,100.<sup>1</sup>

**98%**

of CEOs report that filling open positions with candidates with needed competencies is a problem.<sup>2</sup>

**1 in 7**

16-24 year olds are disconnected from both school and work.<sup>3</sup>

**46%**

of U.S. college students don't earn a degree in six years, producing the world's highest college drop-out rate.<sup>4</sup>

## BOTTOM LINE

Many young Americans are **not prepared** to make an **informed decision** about a career pathway, do not understand the wealth of career opportunities, and do not possess **critical employability skills** needed to succeed in the workforce. **All young people** should learn about the economic opportunities available to them so that they can **pursue and achieve the American Dream**.

### TO LEARN MORE:

Global Pathways Institute at ASU  
[www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org](http://www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org)

William Symonds  
Director  
[william.symonds@asu.edu](mailto:william.symonds@asu.edu)  
(781) 910-3161

Elle Gemma Gruver  
Program Associate  
[ellegemma.gruver@asu.edu](mailto:ellegemma.gruver@asu.edu)  
(480) 884-1518



# Coalition for Career Development

## How will we address this challenge?

**COALITION MISSION:** We will work collaboratively with education, business, government and non-profit organizations to create a national movement dedicated to helping all learners become career literate and career ready. Our work will include communicating the value of career development; identifying and promoting best practices; organizing and conducting convenings; promoting research and evaluation; fostering collaboration; and creating innovative programs.

## What are the next steps?

Coalition for Career Development Steering Committee members are currently recruiting senior executives from some of the nation's most influential companies and organizations to join them in serving on an Advisory Board that will guide the Coalition's work. A working group is developing a pilot project that would demonstrate the power of putting a Career Development Advisor in every high school and a Career Development Coordinator in every community.

The Coalition will hold a second national convening in early 2017, at which we plan to call for a White House Summit on Career Development. These convenings will insure that the issue of career development is at the forefront of education and workforce development moving forward.

## How can you get involved?

The Coalition for Career Development welcomes individuals and organizations who want to get involved. The Coalition is also seeking financial and in-kind support to continue this work. The Global Pathways Institute at Arizona State University is serving as the secretariat for the Coalition for Career Development. If you would like to be involved in the Coalition's efforts, recommend an individual to serve on the Advisory Board, or learn more, please use the contact information below.

[www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org/coalition-career-development](http://www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org/coalition-career-development)

### Coalition for Career Development Founding Steering Committee

*ACT, Inc.*

*Advance CTE*

*Association for Career and Technical  
Education*

*America's Promise Alliance*

*Boston University School of Education*

*Council of Chief State School Officers*

*Global Pathways Institute*

*Manufacturing Skill Standards Council*

*National Career Development  
Association*

*National Collaborative on Workforce  
and Disability for Youth*

*National Governors Association*

*SME*

*U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Foundation*

## TO LEARN MORE:

Global Pathways Institute at ASU  
[www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org](http://www.globalpathwaysinstitute.org)

**William Symonds**  
Director  
[william.symonds@asu.edu](mailto:william.symonds@asu.edu)  
(781) 910-3161

**Elle Gemma Gruver**  
Program Associate  
[ellegemma.gruver@asu.edu](mailto:ellegemma.gruver@asu.edu)  
(480) 884-1518