



Recommendation of Strategies for meeting employer needs from the Skills Gap Task Force to the Commission on Workforce Development are as follows:

1. Develop Career Pathways for critical industry clusters. Pathways will be developed by industry-education partnerships in each of the eight designated Prosperity Zones. They will be available consistently across the state and will include “on- and off-ramps” for people at different phases of their careers including students in high school, community college, university, veterans, unemployed, as well as individuals who want to advance their careers.
2. Use information from career pathways to establish needed programs in high schools, community colleges, and universities that will help individuals gain entrance to high-quality careers and ensure that businesses have the talent they need.
3. Require workforce development partners to use the career pathways and target resources to help individuals gain the skills and experience they need for in-demand occupations.
4. Establish an MOU with statewide education and workforce development entities to increase registration and use of NCWorks Online.
5. Investigate how to better align career information in CFNC with NCWorks Online and develop a single portal for users.
6. Members of the Commission on Workforce Development commit to use NCWorks Online in recruitment and employment activities.
7. Develop industry engagement pathways to show how businesses can be more engaged in workforce development activities, especially worked-based learning such as job shadowing, externships for faculty, internships for students, on-the-job training, and Registered Apprenticeship.
8. Investigate how work-based learning activities could be incorporated in to agreements with companies that receive state economic development incentives.