Learn About MEFA Pathway's Work-Based Learning Tool





MEFA Institute webinar

Learn About MEFA Pathway's WorkBased Learning Tool



Tuesday June 3, 2025



8:30 AM

Moderated by:



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Work-Based Learning and MEFA Pathway Adoption

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MA DESE: Educational Vision

What principles guide our work?

- All students in Massachusetts, particularly students from historically underserved groups and communities are valued.
- Culturally and linguistically sustaining classroom and school practices
- High expectations with targeted support

What does that look like in practice?

All students

Are known and valued

Learning experiences

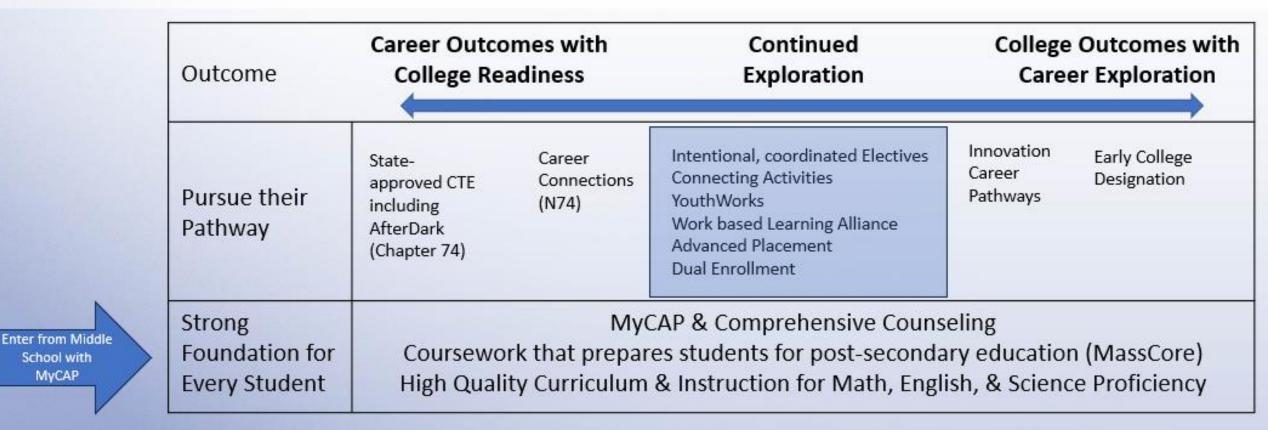
• Are relevant, real-world and interactive

Individualized supports

Enable students to excel at grade level and beyond

Graduating College & Career Ready

School with MyCAP



Massachusetts Career Development Model

Self-Discovery	Career Awareness	Career Exploration	Career Immersion
Middle School grades 6–7	Middle School Grades 7–8	Middle/High Grades 8–10	High School Grades 10–12
Students discover who they are to align career interests	Students learn about the world of work, including its broad range of industries and occupations	Students learn through activities and work experiences that help them explore career options	Students engage in immersive work experiences that prepare them for choices about postsecondary education and careers
 Personal Interests Skills Talents Passions Self-awareness Activities 	 Career Speakers Career Days Career Fairs Career Interest Inventories Career Search Reports 	 Job Shadowing Informational Interviews Job Skills Portfolio Community Service Service Learning Leadership in Career Clubs Contextual Learning Coursework Labor Market Information 	•Work-based learning Capstone Projects •Internships •Pre-Apprenticeship •Entrepreneurial Enterprise •Work-based learning Simulations •Credit-bearing WBL, such as Clinical Experiences •Part-Time Employment •CTE Cooperative Education (Coop)

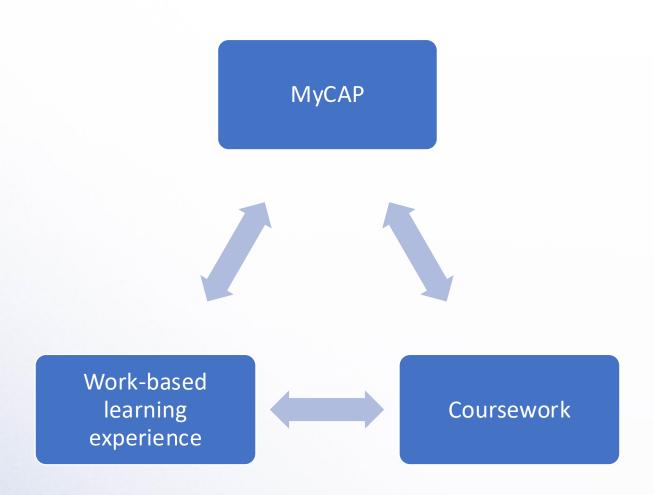
Types of Work-Based Learning in Massachusetts

- A pre-apprenticeship has a documented partnership with at least one Registered Apprenticeship program.
- An internship or clinical is a paid or credit-bearing work experience of 100 hours or more
- A work-based learning capstone (industry-engaged capstone)
- A work-based learning simulation engages either employers and/or clients/customers external to the school or district
- Cooperative education is an alternating paid work and classroom experience as part of CTE program

Work-based Learning in Pathways

- WBL is a required component of designated career pathways and Perkins funded programs
- Students engage in WBL through state funded Connecting Activities, YouthWorks, and other initiatives
- Schools and districts also support local partnerships that expand WBL for their students

Work-based Learning - Making Connections



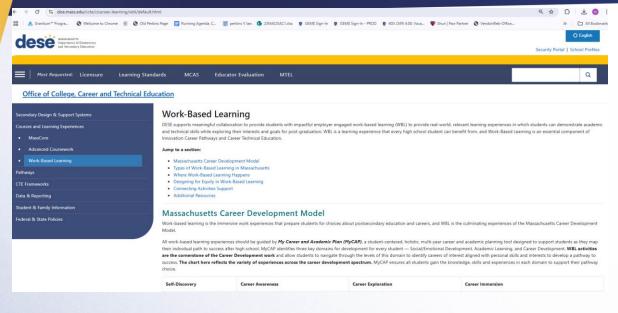
Support for Adoption

- DESE will support district adoption of this tool through grant funding and technical assistance in partnership with MEFA.
- Assistance is available to early adopters in January 2025 and will continue to support districts in adoption through SY27-28
- MEFA's continuous improvement approach to this partnership means they are learning with us and are regularly integrating feedback into their updates

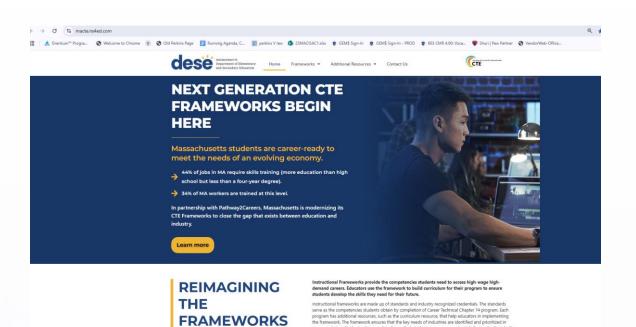
Summary

- MEFA Pathway is College and Career Planning Tool that DESE has adopted for work-based learning
 - Available now and by SY28, it will be used for:
 - List of activities students can choose
 - WBL plan what student will do and goals for WBL
 - Student reflection and employer feedback
- CCTE Grants cannot be used to fund alternative platforms
- Districts may still coordinate use of other platforms as part of their MyCAP and College and Career Planning

Additional Resources



https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/courses-learning/wbl



MACareerConnectedLearning.org

program design. Students who complete Career Technical programs earn credentials that make them both employable and ready for higher education. Essential industry and safety credentials are identified for each program area as an external validation of the skills students need to enter the industry. Educators and administrators may also identify supplemental or specialized credentials that students may earn in the

MEFA Pathway

Apelila Joseph Director, MEFA Pathway



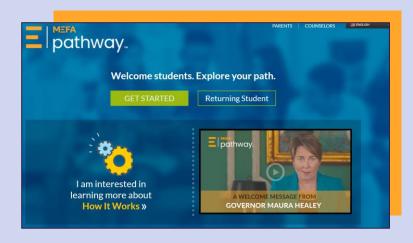
MEFA Pathway

Massachusetts's FREE college and career planning tool

Resources Include:

- Resume builder
- Skills, values, interests assessments, learning styles inventory
- Career exploration
- College search
- Financial aid and scholarship information
- Goals & strategies tracking

- Personalized digital portfolio
- Site translation
- Common App & Parchment integration
- Clever & Google Single Sign-On
- Curriculum guide
- Work-Based Learning tools





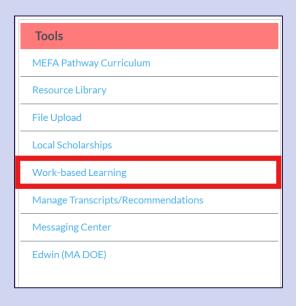
Getting Started with Work-Based Learning

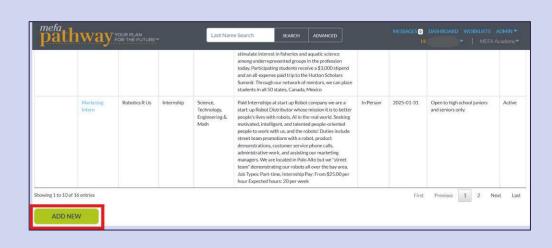
Setup instructions for educators and staff supporting work-based learning

Accessing the Counselor Portal

- Educators can get started posting their school's opportunities by visiting mefapathway.org and logging into the counselor portal.
- Under the *Tools* section, they can select *Work-Based Learning* to set up their school's database. From there, educators should click *Add New* to add a new work-based learning opportunity.

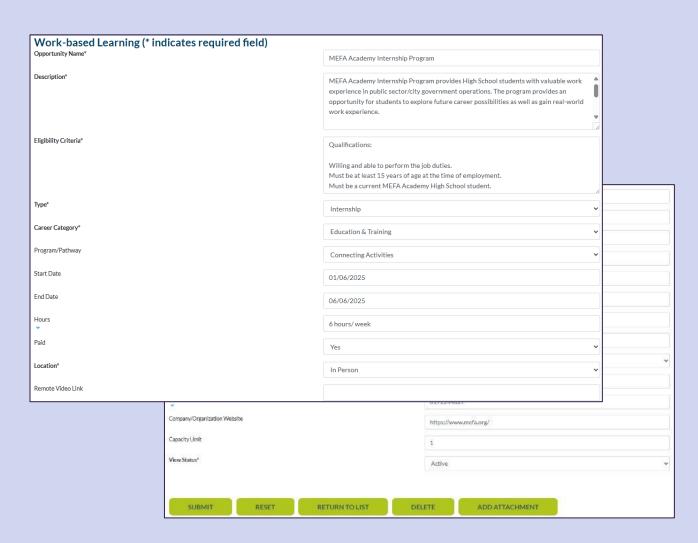






Adding New WBL Opportunities

- Educators will be prompted to enter all relevant information for the work-based learning experience and should be sure to answer all the required fields: Opportunity Name, Description, Eligibility Criteria, Type, Career Category, Location, Company/ Organization Name, and View Status.
- Clicking Submit will add the opportunity to the school's database.
- On the next screen, educators can add additional documents by clicking Add Attachment, or if there is nothing to add, click Return to List.

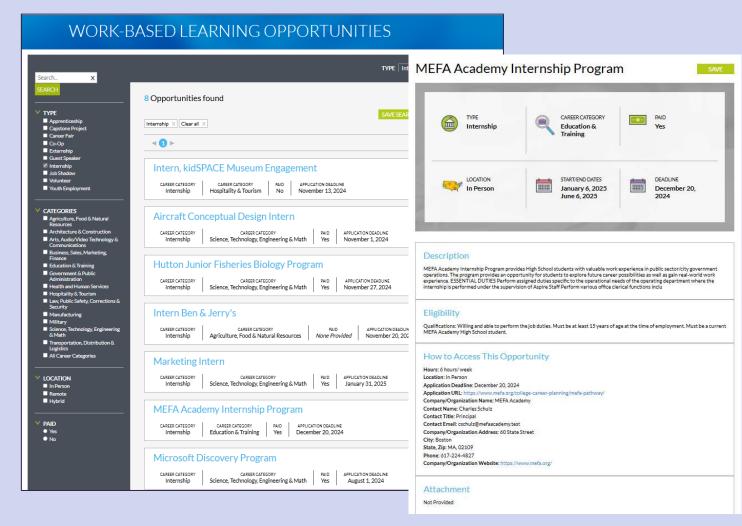




Student Portal Work-Based Learning

Work-Based Learning Opportunities

- High schools can create and display a database of employment-related opportunities for their students.
- The feature allows students to discover:
 - Apprenticeships
 - Capstone Projects
 - Career Fairs
 - o Co-Ops
 - o Externships
 - Guest Speakers
 - Internships
 - Job Shadows
 - Volunteer Opportunities
 - Youth Employment
- Students can click on an opportunity to view the details.
- Students can save experiences of interest to their *My Opportunities* list.



My Opportunities

- On their *My Opportunities* page, students can update the status of each opportunity including their intention to attend, or if they have applied or been hired.
- Students can favorite
 opportunities and pin them to the
 top of their list by clicking the
 heart icon.
- If a student updates the status to hired or will attend, the option to launch My Plan appears.



My Plan

• For each opportunity in which they participate, students can create their own *My Plan*, which enables them to set goals and evaluate their skill growth through mid-point and final evaluations.

 Student progress is shared with the educator at their school overseeing work-based learning

Start Date: 1/6/2025 End Date: 6/6/2025

School Supervisor (staff or teacher)

Student Evaluation

Name: Mrs. Smith

Initial Self-Evaluation

Mid-Point Self-Evaluation:

Final Self-Evaluation

Worksite Supervisor
Name: Charles Schulz

MEFA Academy Internship Program

Email: smitha@test.test

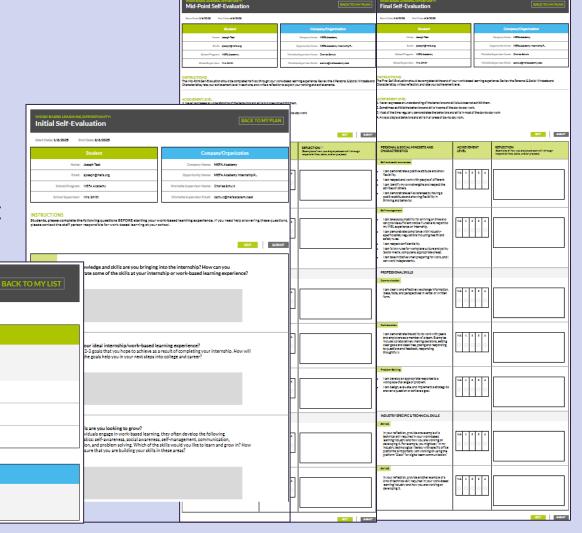
Email: cschulz@mefaacademy.t

Status: Not Started

Status: Not Started

Status: Not Starter

experiences.



View Form

View Form

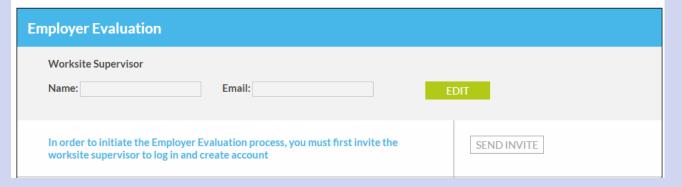
View Form

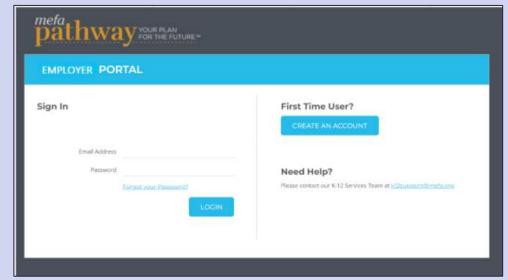


Employer Portal Work-Based Learning

Employer Portal

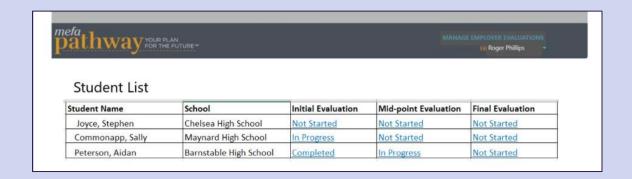
- On the My Plan page, students can request their Employer Evaluation.
- Employers receive an email and are prompted to create an account for the Employer Portal.

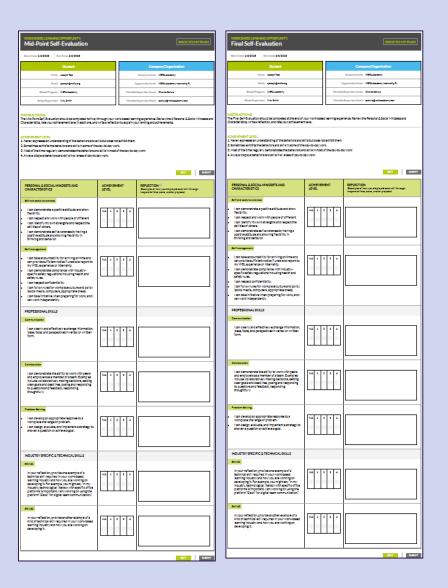




Employer Evaluation Forms

- The Dashboard shows a complete list of students who have requested employer evaluations.
- Employers can complete evaluations for students by clicking on the status to launch the form.



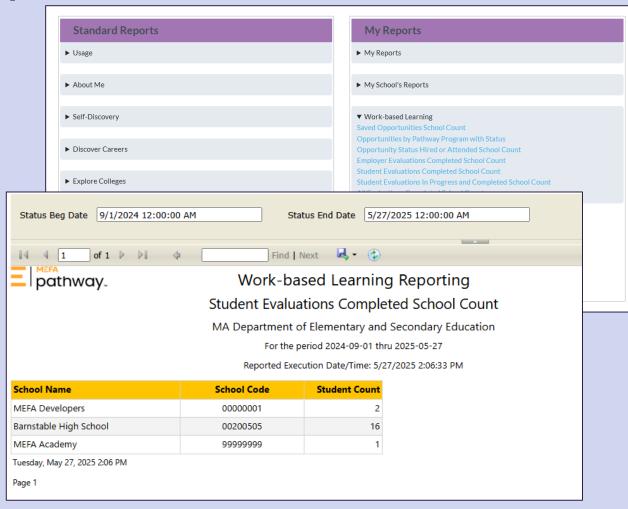




Work-Based Learning Reports

Work-Based Learning Reports

- Available on the Reports page located under the Tools section on the Dashboard
- Reports available for all aspects of work-based learning (Student Portal, Employer Evaluations etc.)
 - Aggregate and detailed student level reports are available
 - Must select a date window when running a new report
 - Reports can be exported



Interested in using MEFA Pathway's Work-Based Learning Tool?

- 1. Request a demo
- 2. Sign the agreement
- 3. Schedule a training



Questions? Contact us at: k12support@mefa.org.