

market information and carry out effective recruitment and intake procedures, quality instructional design and delivery, integrated education and work opportunities, and support services for learners. As adult education providers identify the types of assistance they may need from partners, state leaders can remind them of the key categories in which they should seek partners who can support career pathways activities: workforce development agencies, community and technical colleges, school districts, vocational rehabilitation, employers, union organizations, and community service agencies.

State leaders should also encourage local providers to consider community/regional level issues to maintain a perspective on the broader career pathways ecosystem. In building career pathways systems, it is important to consider the strategic, long-term advantages that partnerships with adult education can provide potential partners. State leaders can discuss with adult education providers the issues that motivate potential career pathways partners and that can be areas of common ground between adult education providers and their partners.

## **Potential Partners' Interests**

### **Community College Leaders:**

- Reduce remedial course enrollment
- Enhance student engagement
- Increase credential and degree attainment

### **Economic Development and Workforce Leaders:**

- Enhance labor pool to retain and attract employers
- Increase income levels in the community
- Align economic development vision and workforce advancement
- Increase impact of government-funded programs
- Drive economic growth and improve quality of life
- Reduce poverty, crime, and support costs

### **Employers:**

- Increase access to qualified workers
- Shorten new employee orientation times and reduce expenditures
- Increase productivity
- Reduce recruitment costs and turnover

## **Steps to Form Partnerships**

Strong partnerships are formed when potential partners identify a common issue or need where both entities can benefit from working together. Adult education state leaders should promote adult education