

Background and Conditions for Participation in AIDT/ALSDE High School Direct Ready to Work Pilot

Purpose:

The “High School Direct Ready to Work” pilot program is intended to prove the viability of offering AIDT’s Ready to Work Certification (RTW) in high school by demonstrating the benefits for students as they become job seekers and for the employers looking to hire quality applicants. Students with an expressed interest in seeking employment immediately upon graduation are the target audience of this program.

Background:

The AIDT Ready to Work Program was created to facilitate employability skills training for job seekers and to provide employers a standardized credential to certify potential employee’s job readiness. The training curriculum is set to standards cited by business and industry employers throughout the state, and the skills cited in the U. S. Department of Labor’s Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) Reports. In the fall of 2017, a revised and updated curriculum was rolled out for the AIDT Ready to Work (RTW) Program.

Benefits to the Student:

Completers of the RTW program earn an “Alabama Certified Worker” certificate widely recognized by industry in Alabama and increasingly used as a mandatory pre-employment certification of employability skills. Completers of the program also earn a tuition waiver valid for one college course at an Alabama Community College.

Program Participation:

Up to 60 Local Education Agencies will be identified as candidates to participate in the second phase of the pilot program during the 2018-2019 school year. To participate, an LEA must agree to the following conditions and stipulations. Only after an LEA has returned a completed implementation plan proposal to the ALSDE will they be considered for submission to AIDT for admittance to the program.

Program Stipulations:

1. LEA agrees to provide a certified teacher as the RTW trainer. The teacher may be from any field, but must be a full-time employee and should express an interest and aptitude for assisting students with career development.
2. LEA will provide leave time and travel for the teacher to attend RTW training on September 11th OR September 13th, 2018. *(The expenses for this activity are Perkins eligible or may be covered with other PD funds from the LEA.)*
3. LEA will schedule not less than 10 and not more than 24 senior students per section to participate in the RTW program.
4. Participating students must be in good standing and must be on track to graduate on time. The students should have an expressed interest in going to work immediately after graduation.
5. LEA will adhere to all requirements of the AIDT RTW program to ensure it is implemented to fidelity.
6. LEA will work provide resources to prepare students to earn a Silver Work Keys certification.
7. LEA will make every effort to facilitate direct student engagement with local industry partners.

Background and Conditions for Participation in AIDT/ALSDE High School Direct Ready to Work Pilot

Program Application Process:

To apply to be a pilot program site, an interested LEA will submit a plan for implementation to Josh Laney (jlaney@alsde.edu). **The deadline for application is May 13, 2018.** The plan will be brief, but must include:

- how students will be scheduled to get the content,
- how the students will be selected for the program,
- the name of the school or CTE center where the training will occur,
- the primary LEA contact for supervising the implementation, and
- the name and certification type of the teacher who will be the RTW trainer.

Approved locations will be notified by May 20, 2018.

Contact Josh Laney (jlaney@alsde.edu) for any additional information.