# Work-based Learning Why Now and Where to?

### Work-based Learning: Why Now?

Interest in work-based learning driven by research suggesting potential to benefit....

Individuals	Firms	States
<ul> <li>Higher earnings</li> <li>Networks for job opportunities</li> <li>Relevant skills</li> <li>Academic achievement and completion</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Productivity</li> <li>Employee morale</li> <li>Retention</li> <li>Safety</li> <li>Pool of candidates</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cost-effective education and training</li> <li>Economic and social impacts</li> </ul>

## Work-based Learning: Why Now?

# Interest in work-based learning driven by incentives to bridge the worlds of education and work....

#### For employers:

- Demand for "work ready" skills (assessed on the job) as well as tailored technical skills (learned on the job)
- Competition for potential employees and coping with relative skills shortages driven by changing demographics and generational preferences

#### For post-secondary education providers:

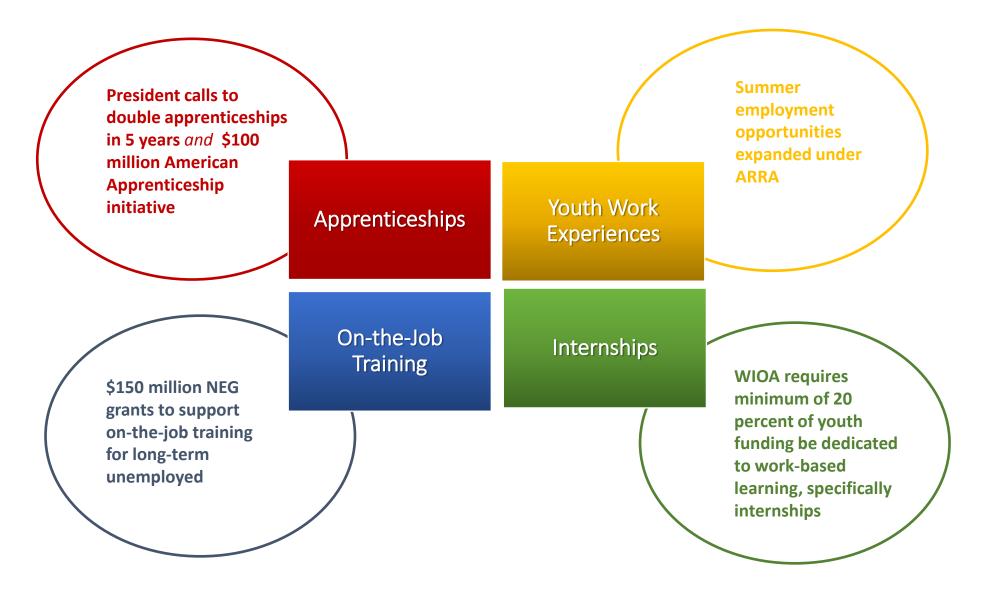
- Increased accountability for employment outcomes (i.e. published results, performance funding)
- Pressure to reduce cost and accelerate time to credential (i.e. RPL and competency based curricula)
- Marketability to students and employer partners a pathway to employment

#### For the workforce system:

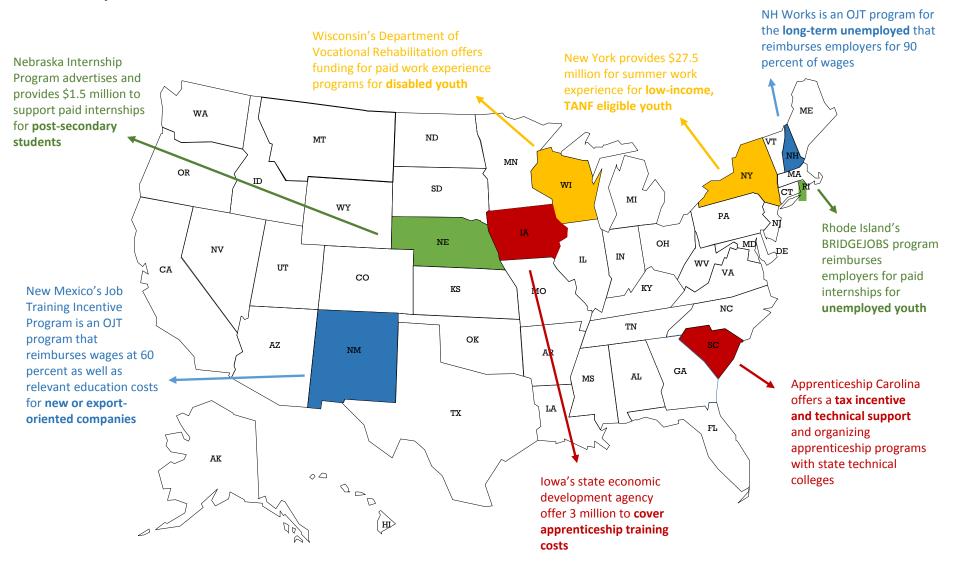
- Delivering under a "job-driven training" framework and interest in "earn and learn" approaches
- Increased focus on WIBs as conveners to align workforce resources with complex needs of local labor markets and sectors
- Increased focus on strategies for re-engaging out-of-school youth and other hard-to-serve populations

# Evolving Interest in Work-based Learning

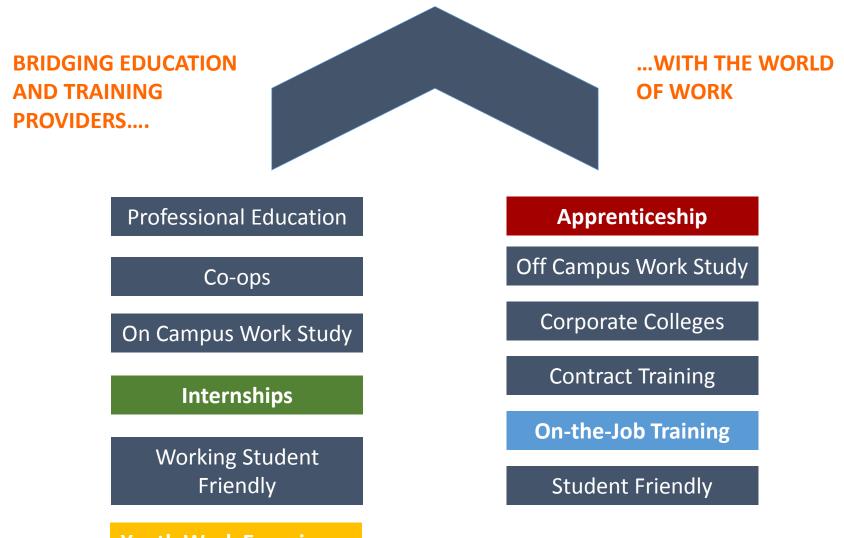
within Federal Policy



#### Support for Work-based Learning Examples from the States



### Work-based Learning: Towards an integrated model



Youth Work Experience Adapted fr

Adapted from National Network of Business and Industry Associations, 2014

# A Conceptual Model



### Work-Based Learning

	Four Core Elements	Element Enhancements
1.	<b>AGREEMENT</b> Formal articulation of terms (plan, length) and compensation (wage, credit) between participant and employer	<ul> <li><u>WAGES:</u> Participant is paid a wage</li> <li><u>PRE-ASSESSMENT:</u> Agreement informed by customized assessment of participant learning objectives/needs</li> </ul>
2.	<b>ONSITE WORK COMPONENT</b> Participant engages in supervised work of value to host organization	<ul> <li><u>HIGH-DEMAND INDUSTRY</u>: Host organization represents a high demand sector/industry with sound career/employment prospects</li> <li><u>MENTORSHIP</u>: Structured mentorship opportunity</li> </ul>
3.	<b>LEARNING COMPONENT</b> Participant engages in structured learning activities to enhance existing knowledge, skills and abilities	<ul> <li><u>CREDENTIAL:</u> Learning acquired over the course of the experience is certified and/or can be articulated for academic credit</li> <li><u>COHORT LEARNING:</u> Learning experience is provided by a professional instructor in an environment with peers</li> </ul>
4.	<b>PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT</b> Upon conclusion, employer assesses performance and provides feedback directly to participant	<ul> <li>WORK &amp; LEARNING ASSESSMENT: Employer assessment and feedback is integrated with additional learning outcomes to provide an overall review of the experience</li> <li>INTERMEDIARY FEEDBACK: Feedback goes to intermediary that organizes work-base-learning</li> </ul>

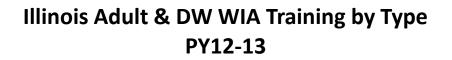
## Work-based Learning: Enhanced model examples

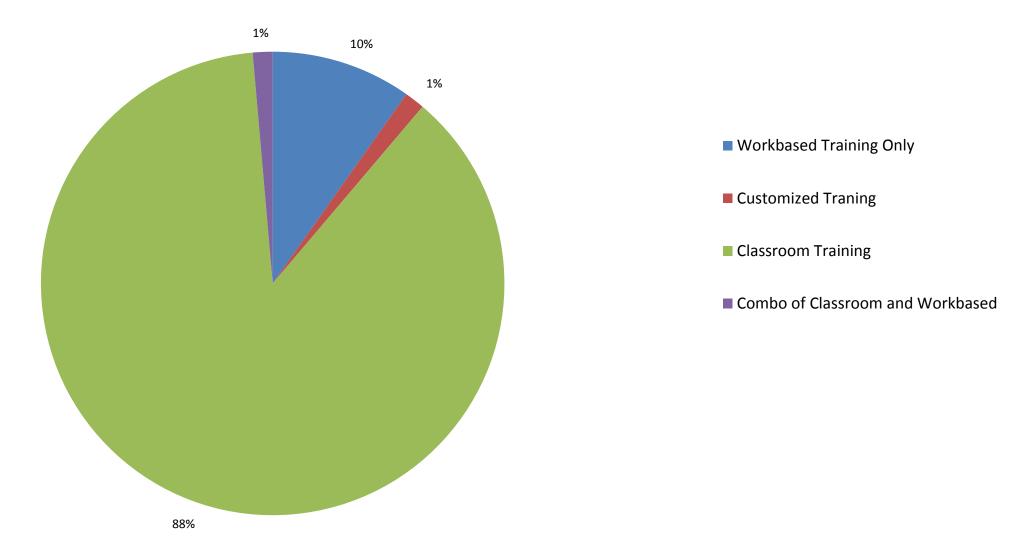
- i.c. stars (project-based work experience)
- Apprenticeship Models (New Century Careers, South Carolina, Kentucky FAME Program)
- NY Dept. of Labor Innovative Internships Grants
- MAT2 Michigan (youth apprenticeship)
- Hitachi's "Pioneer Employers" initiative (upskilling front-line workers)
- Others

#### Discussion

- Where are we at now?
  - Work-based training
  - Enhanced models—Combining Work-based and Classroom Training
  - Enhanced models—Accelerated Training
- What are some promising practices and models?
- What are the major issues and barriers in moving these to scale?
- How can they be addressed? What are the implications for your action plans?

## **Illinois Baseline**





### **Illinois Baseline**

#### Work Based Learning in Illinois PY12-13

