



ECONOMIC PROSPECTS FOR NOLA'S YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PANDEMIC

IT'S TIME TO DOUBLE DOWN ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

With the pandemic upending education as we know it and placing additional strains on already stretched schools, it is important that business, civic, and education leaders sustain our commitment to providing New Orleans high school students and recent grads with high quality career & technical education (CTE). The YouthForce collaborative's CTE programs prepare students with the technical skills, soft skills, networks, and work experience they need to thrive after graduation.

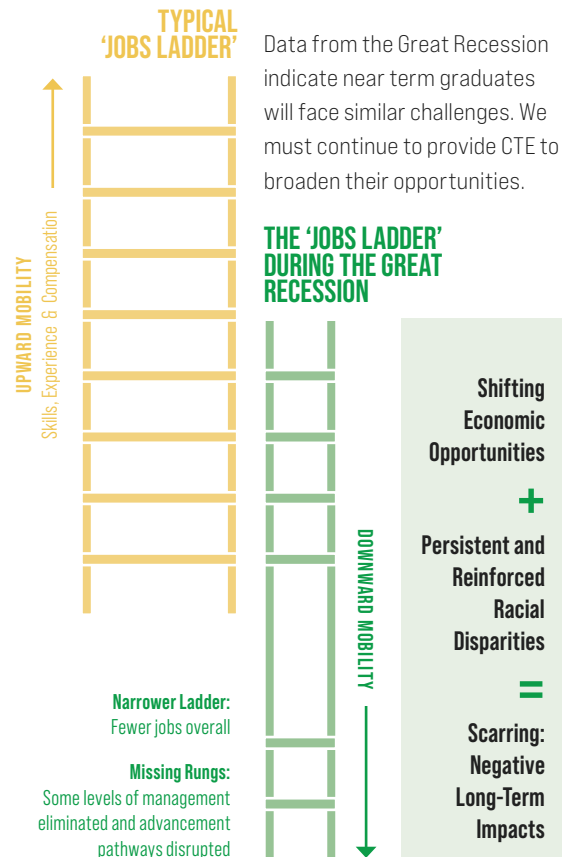
CTE WORKS, AND IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

Students concentrating in CTE programs are 16% more likely to graduate from high school nationally, and 91% of high school graduates who earned 2-3 CTE credits enrolled in college. Additionally, high school graduates who gain industry-recognized credentials as part of their CTE training earn more when they enter directly into the workforce.

THE PANDEMIC AND ECONOMIC CRISIS HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT YOUNG PEOPLE OF COLOR.

The pandemic has forced many of our recent grads to rethink starting college and taking on the massive debt that comes with it. And those who have been on track to enter the workforce directly after high school are now at the back of the line behind the millions of workers recently fired or furloughed.

THE PANDEMIC RECOVERY WILL BE ESPECIALLY CHALLENGING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



A DEMAND-DRIVEN CAREER READINESS MODEL

YouthForce NOLA designs its programs to meet the needs of employers in our region's high-growth, high-wage industries. While our nation is faced with one of the greatest economic crises since the Great Depression, many of the jobs in these industries are seeing the lowest losses and the dire need for a workforce trained in the STEM fields has become even more apparent. CTE ensures that there are meaningful pathways from high school to further training that leads to high-wage jobs – and it creates a pipeline of talent for local employers. **In this time of great need and uncertainty, building bridges between school and work is even more essential. Our young people are smart, tech savvy, and nimble. We must provide them with the skills, experiences, and opportunities to be competitive in the ever-evolving world of work.**



YouthForce NOLA is an education, business, and civic collaborative that prepares New Orleans public school students for successful pursuit of high-wage, high-demand career pathways. Through our network of partner schools, employers, training providers, and community organizations, YouthForce offers career exposure and experiences, soft and technical skills training, and employer-validated credentials. YouthForce's vision is that our graduates will thrive economically and be the most sought after talent for hiring and advancement in the region's high-wage career pathways. YouthForce staff serve as the backbone for this citywide effort – both coordinating system-wide efforts, as well as serving as the lead work-based learning intermediary.

OUR PARTNERS

YouthForce NOLA Collaborative Steering Committee organizations:

- Baptist Community Ministries
- City of New Orleans
- Greater New Orleans, Inc.
- JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans
- Louisiana Department of Education
- New Orleans Business Alliance
- New Orleans Career Center
- NOLA Public Schools
- New Schools for New Orleans
- United Way of Southeast Louisiana
- Urban League of Louisiana

YouthForce NOLA partner high schools (as of July 2020; new schools are selected annually):

- Abramson Sci Academy
- Booker T. Washington High School
- G.W. Carver High School
- Walter L. Cohen College Prep High School
- Frederick A. Douglass High School
- Warren Easton Charter High School
- Einstein Charter High School
- International High School of New Orleans
- Edna Karr High School
- John F. Kennedy High School
- L.B. Landry High School
- Living School
- Livingston Collegiate
- McDonogh 35 College Preparatory High School
- Morris Jeff Community School
- Eleanor McMain Secondary School
- New Harmony High School
- New Orleans Accelerated High School
- New Orleans Military & Maritime Academy
- Opportunities Academy
- Rooted School
- Rosenwald Collegiate
- New Orleans Charter Science & Math High School
- Sophie B. Wright Charter School
- The Net Charter High School: Central City
- The Net Charter High School: Gentilly

YouthForce NOLA Training Provider Partners

- Gateway EMS
- New Orleans Career Center
- New Orleans Technical Education Provider
- NOVAC
- Operation Spark
- Spark Mindset
- Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)

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