YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE

CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING



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Local Impact | Success Stories

Southeast Service Cooperative

WELCOME

Southeast Service Cooperative

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Career-Connected Learning Solutions (CCLS) at Southeast Service Cooperative (SSC).

We understand the challenges businesses face in today's job market. Finding qualified workers is becoming increasingly difficult, impacting productivity, customer service, and ultimately, your bottom line.

At SSC, we believe in fostering a strong workforce and building a thriving community. CCLS was created with this very purpose in mind: to connect businesses with the talented and motivated youth of Southeast Minnesota.

In this document, we'll show you how supporting CCLS offers a win-win situation. Industry gains access to a pool of future talent, while investing in a program that empowers students and strengthens our local economy.

We invite you to explore the many benefits of championing CCLS and join us in shaping a brighter future for our region.

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE WORKFORCE & COMMUNITY

DID YOU KNOW?

The average cost per hire for one position is nearly $4,700.

This substantial investment doesn't guarantee finding the right fit, often leading to a repeated, costly cycle.
-Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

At Southeast Service Cooperative's Career-Connected Learning Solutions (CCLS), we bridge the gap between businesses and the future workforce. Here's how championing CCLS can benefit industry:

- **Build Your Talent Pipeline:** Gain access to a pool of qualified and motivated students interested in your field. CCLS connects you with thousands of young people across Southeast Minnesota through career exploration events, job fairs, and mentorship opportunities.
- **Reduce Recruitment Costs:** By connecting with potential employees before they graduate high school, you can save time and money on traditional recruiting methods. CCLS helps you build relationships with future talent early on, increasing the chances they'll consider your company after graduation.
- **Enhance Your Brand Awareness:** Showcase your company as a leader in workforce development and a committed member of the Southeast Minnesota community. Through CCLS , you'll gain valuable brand exposure through our extensive network of schools, students, and community partners.
- **Invest in Innovation:** CCLS interns and mentees bring fresh ideas and perspectives to your company. This can lead to increased innovation and a more competitive edge in the marketplace.
- **Maximize Your ROI:** CCLS offer a high return on investment. By connecting with future talent early on, you can reduce recruitment costs and build a strong talent pipeline for years to come.

WHAT AM I SPONSORING?

Join us in supporting the youth of our community and our career-connected learning programs. Your sponsorship will provide invaluable experiences along the 3 E's Framework below.

Thanks to champions like you, we are able to support the following programs across the 11-county region of Southeast Minnesota:

- #IAMCTE
- Changemaker Hub
- Discover Healthcare
- Future*Forward*
- Future*Forward* Career and College Fair
- Future*Forward* Jobs Board (Internship & Micro-Internships)
- Future*Forward* Industry Partner of the Year Awards
- Groundhog Job Shadows
- Manufacturing Month
- Middle School Career Academy
- NitroX Camp
- Outstanding Educator Awards
- SE Minnesota Post-Secondary Guide
- SE MN Welding Competition
- STEM Forward Educator Forum & TechFest
- Student Career-Connected Learning Survey

By investing in career-connected learning, you contribute to a thriving community where businesses flourish and local talent shines.

DID YOU KNOW?

Between 2019 and 2022, 40% (8,910 high school graduates) in Southeast Minnesota did not enroll in college, and only 19% of those students worked full-time.

By investing in career-connected learning, you can create a more vibrant and sustainable local economy by supporting the growth and development of your community's workforce.
-Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (2024)



3 E's Framework

LOCAL IMPACT

7/1/23-6/30/24

+48%
Student Experiences (9,502)

+60%
Industry Partnerships (559)

+75%
Future*Forward*™ Unique Events (115,604)

2268
Future*Forward*™ Contact Forms Sent (New in 2024!)

71%
Mentorship & Internship Interest High School Youth

5/1/24
Creation of Future*Forward* Jobs Board

1100 Views
660 Clicks
14 Paid Internships
& Micro-Internships Pilot

"All Craft Exteriors feel that we absolutely need to attend events like the Career Fair in Cannon Falls. Our future, and the future of our industry, really depends on making sure that young people understand that there are plenty of rewarding, exciting and high paying jobs to be had in the building trades."
– Alex Ball, All Craft Exteriors



Southeast Service Cooperative. (2023-2024). Youth Career Survey.

"This is a great event for students, because they start their network here. The job placement for CTE training programs is almost at 100%."
– Ryan Stanley, Austin Public Schools CTE Educator

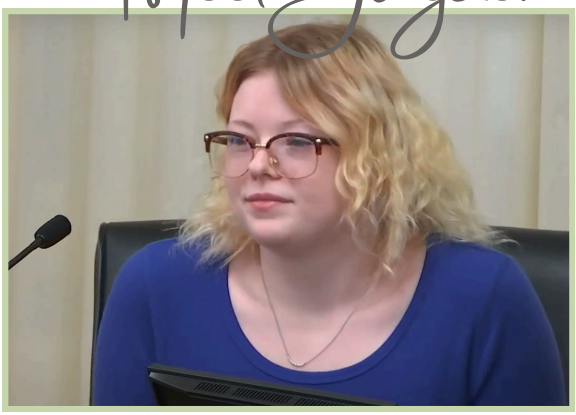
SUCCESS STORIES

Changing Lives, Building a Stronger Workforce

Real People, Real Results: How Career-Connected Learning Makes a Difference

Connecting students to local business professionals makes a profound impact in Southeast Minnesota! Here are just two inspiring stories that showcase the transformative power of these programs!

Meet Jayden



Jayden testifies at the Minnesota House of Representative's Education Finance Committee in 2023 to advocate for ongoing career-connected learning funding.

"This program changed my granddaughter's life," says Alicia, Jayden's grandmother. During her senior year amidst COVID-19, Jayden found traditional hands-on learning difficult due to restrictions at nursing homes. The Certified Nursing Assistant training program provided the support and motivation she needed to stay focused on her future.

The program helped Jayden gain valuable skills aligned with her chosen career path – becoming a CNA. With guidance from the SSC team, Jayden landed a job at Samaritan Bethany. She's forged connections with residents, forming a bond that feels more like family. Years after graduation, she's still loving her profession. Jayden's story is a testament to how career-connected learning programs empower students to achieve their career goals.

Meet Billy



Billy, a young man from southeast Minnesota, was considered at-risk with immense potential hidden beneath the surface. His passion for welding was ignited by a dedicated CTE teacher who saw his spark and encouraged Billy to participate in the SE MN Welding Competition at RCTC. He was able to not only showcase his skills and win his division, but also received a home welder in a raffle sponsored by industry partners like you!

Billy's dedication was undeniable. He set up his welder within a week, bringing his creations to class, and independently purchased gas to expand his skills. Witnessing Billy's self-motivation and passion, his teacher saw a future welder in the making.

This event provided Billy with the opportunity and resources to explore his passion. Your support fuels these programs, offering essential equipment, educational events, and scholarships. With your help, we can create more success stories like Billy's, ensuring students like him can thrive and pursue their chosen careers.

With your sponsorship, we can ensure more students have the resources and opportunities they need to succeed.

Together, we can create more success stories!

