

CHALLENGE

Aligning postsecondary and workforce resources on a statewide scale to deliver consistent, customizable solutions for linking education and career pathways that support students and job seekers, maintain a healthy talent pipeline, and promote broad community prosperity.

"We wanted something we could execute fairly quickly but also with a level of fidelity where you could have consistency across the entire state through an equity lens, from urban to rural. When CAEL comes in the room and recommends something, you're going to find many stakeholders who want to engage."

Kenyatta Lovett, Assistant Commissioner for Workforce Services, Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development

SOLUTION

TENN Work Learn Earn offers an interactive career-matching solution that allows students and job seekers to explore hundreds of occupations in eight high-growth industries. It charts the learning paths and skills that qualify workers for each position, interfacing with education providers and industry to create a user-friendly, central point of contact for navigating the connections between college and career.



State-level initiatives succeed when individuals are engaged and supported as they determine postsecondary career pathways and earn postsecondary credentials. TN.WorkLearnEarn.org was created in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Complete Tennessee, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, and the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development. It uses geo-mapped data to create a user-friendly environment in which students and career seekers explore and connect with education and career opportunities in their area and throughout the state.

With its ability not only to drill down into the educational and occupational opportunities within each region but to visualize holistic connections among them, TENN Work Learn Earn is increasing industry exploration for students across the state and helping funnel new workers into featured industries by:

- Supporting regional alignment of higher education to labor market demands and revealing clear, current and accurate career information.
- Providing seamless access to advising, education, support, and/or employment resources.
- Acting as a force multiplier for other advising, educational, and workforce resources already supporting Tennesseans.

Launched in 2018, TENN Work Learn Earn is making a significant impact in the region as an industry-driven tool for teachers, advisors, counselors and case managers to use in the classroom and office with students and job.

Learn more at cael.org



Recognizing that adult learners are the backbone of the U.S. economy, CAEL helps forge a clear, viable connection between education and career success, providing solutions that promote sustainable and equitable economic growth. CAEL opens doors to opportunity in collaboration with workforce and economic developers, postsecondary educators, and employers, industry groups, foundations, and other mission-aligned organizations. By engaging with these stakeholders, we foster a culture of innovative, lifelong learning that helps individuals and their communities thrive. Established in 1974, CAEL, a Strada Education Network affiliate, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) membership organization.