

Employer Engagement Resources

Overcoming COVID-19 Crisis Impacts

Economic shifts and related employment opportunities are in a state of flux. Education delivery systems are rapidly transitioning to meet health and safety requirements. You may need strategies for managing pandemic-generated change. Below you will find resources to help you do this.



COVID-19 Pandemic Resources

Pivoting and Planning: STRIVE's Pandemic Progress

How to rapidly pivot from completely in-person work to delivering services completely online.

- <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/pivoting-and-planning-strive-s-pandemic-progress>

Moving Fast and Staying on Target: Lessons from Per Scholas's Experience with Remote Training

Getting employers more engaged with students, earlier and in different ways using virtual corporate engagement and volunteering efforts.

- <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/moving-fast-and-staying-target-lessons-scholas-s-experience-remote-training>

Pathways to the Post-Pandemic Workforce

High-quality programs that help students acquire the skills, training, and postsecondary credentials they need to thrive in the workplace and that studies show improved academic outcomes.

- <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/pathways-post-pandemic-workforce>

Employment Services

Low-wage workers have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. This study documents innovations and adaptations made in real-time to rapidly pivot from completely in-person work to delivering services completely online.

- <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/pivoting-and-planning-strive-s-pandemic-progress>

COVID-19 and Rural Higher Education

Innovative adaptations that rural educators have been making in response to the pandemic. Many of these strategies may be applicable to all institutions, not just those with a preponderance of rural students.

- <https://www.mdrc.org/publication/covid-19-and-rural-higher-education>

Making the Case for Hiring Individuals with Barriers to Employment

The Federal Bonding Program is a no-cost means for businesses to mitigate the perceived financial risk of hiring individuals with barriers to employment.

- <https://www.bonds4jobs.com/>

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) offers cost savings to employers who hire individuals with barriers to employment.

- <https://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/>

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center has Reentry Mythbusters for employers and workforce development specialists who are interested in the incentives and protections involved in hiring people with criminal records.

- <https://infograph.venngage.com/edit/f1acf275-87a3-4255-ae81-d2c8c4288d26>

Transitional jobs and subsidized employment programs can make a real social impact.

- https://transitionaljobs.issuelab.org/resource/social_and_economic_impact_transitional_jobs_and_subsidized_employment_programs.html

Research from Cone Communications shows why it's a strategic business decision for employers to engage in socially responsible business practices.

- <https://www.conecomm.com/2013-global-csr-study-report>

The Workforce Strategies Initiative at the Aspen Institute

Shows how workforce development professionals can measure the value and effectiveness of their services from a business or economic development perspective.

- <https://www.aspeninstitute.org/tag/wsi-value-to-business/>

It is our hope that these resources will provide you with the tools that you need to be successful in engaging employers in your project. For those desiring additional technical assistance, such services are available to you through the Scaling Apprenticeships through Sector Strategies technical assistance provided by MSG. For further information, please contact Marilia Mochel at mmochel@manhattanstrategy.com.

