

Greater Peoria

Workforce Talent Pipeline



Talent Alignment & Labor Availability

WHERE TO ACCESS FUTURE TALENT

Undergraduate Pipelines in and around Greater Peoria



Community College & Technical Institutes

- Illinois Central College
- Midwest Technical Institute
- Spoon River College
- Heartland Community College
- OSF St. Francis Medical Center College
- Carl Sandburg College
- Lincoln Land Community College

Baccalaureate & Graduate Degree-Awarding Institutions

- Bradley University
- Eureka College
- Methodist College
- University of Illinois School of Medicine
- University of Illinois School of Nursing
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan
- University of Illinois
- Southern Illinois University
- Western Illinois University
- Monmouth College
- Knox College

TOP 10 ILLINOIS SCHOOLS

1. University of Chicago
2. Northwestern University
3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
4. Loyola University Chicago
5. University of Illinois at Chicago
6. DePaul University
7. Illinois State University
8. Illinois Institute of Technology
9. College of Lake County
10. Bradley University

Online Credentialing Opportunities

- IT Workforce Accelerator
- Western Illinois
- North Western
- Concordia
- Illinois State
- University of Illinois
- Eastern Illinois
- Bradley
- Tech Credentials
- Other Industry Credentials

CHOOSE GREATER >
PEORIA

Live, Work, Play, Learn &
Connect Here; There is More*
in Greater Peoria

Workforce Pipeline Support Resources

Peoria MSA: Total Certificates and Degrees by Higher Ed Institution, AYs 2022-2023

of Certifications & Bachelor's Degrees Awarded in the Region

| Grand Total | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Institution Name | Sum of Total All Certs below the baccalaureate | Sum of Total All Degrees |
| Bradley University | 0 | 1538 |
| Eureka College | 0 | 119 |
| Graham Hospital School of Nursing | 0 | 17* |
| Illinois Central College | 1265 | 1265 |
| Methodist College | 47 | 172 |
| Midwest Technical Institute | 1020 | 1020 |
| OSF College of Nursing | | 139 |
| Spoon River College | 607 | 607 |

*Defined by the school at 2 to <4 year certificate

Source: <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>



Saint Francis Medical Center
College of Nursing



Talent Support Services

The Emerging Workforce: K-12 and college students in their “cradle to career” journey

Investing in tomorrow’s workforce strengthens our students and your company’s future.”

- GP RWA



Career Spark & CareerSpark You’re Hired

CareerSpark is an interactive, multi-industry career expo open to all 8th-grade students in our region. Through hands-on exhibits, this event aims to spark students’ interest in one or more of the 16 nationally recognized career pathways available in Greater Peoria. This event is a collaboration of 200+ regional employers to demonstrate career pathways and what work looks (and feels) like, introducing thousands of regional Jr. High students to potential pathways, helping them set a roadmap of what the next steps will be in high school and beyond to reach their career aspirations.

You’re Hired is a virtual program offered to High School and College students with the simple mission of educating our region’s students about the career opportunities readily available to them. This is brought to students via a virtual platform and offers employers enhanced capabilities to showcase careers, tours, interviews, and more - going beyond the standard offerings of a booth at a local career fair.

Toolkits for Educators

This collection of resources is specifically designed to help educators align their Middle/High School Curricula with State Standards for Career Preparation. This toolkit includes Regional Support in Developing Internship Programs for Students and Employers and the GP Works Portal for students to find internships/apprenticeships with local employers.

Skills USA Illinois

SkillsUSA provides the framework for employers and schools to develop registered apprenticeships for students and provides funding and tax incentives for employers who hire student apprentices.

[Registered Apprenticeship Program](#)

[FAQ Document](#)

In addition, GP boasts a broad range of Mentoring Organizations and programs that support young professionals, students, and professional development. College & Career Readiness programs allow students to graduate from high school with work readiness, recognized credentials, on-the-job experience, and even degrees from community college.



Regional Opportunities for Earning a Postsecondary Credential



IT Workforce Accelerator

The new IT Workforce Accelerator is a collaboration of industry, education, community-based and other stakeholders developing an IT workforce ecosystem in Central Illinois to meet high-demand workforce needs. The pipeline includes equity-based pathways from high school through college credential completion by cultivating: awareness and interest in IT career pathways, essential (“soft”) skills for workforce readiness, and IT skillsets through employer-driven IT credential programs.

Illinois Central College Apprenticeship Programs

This program provides a roadmap for employers and students to develop apprenticeships for students and provides funding and tax incentives for employers who do hire student apprenticeships. In addition, many ICC Apprenticeship programs include wraparound services for students including stipends, transportation, childcare, and life coaching. Programs range from a few weeks to multi-year and provide job-ready credentials for careers in Manufacturing, Healthcare, Transportation, Energy, Technology, and Workforce Readiness.

- **Manufacturing:** Industrial Maintenance, CNC Machine Operation, Welding
- **Healthcare:** Gateway to Medical Lab Tech Program, Surgical Technologist
- **Transportation & Energy:** Highway Construction, Solar Pipeline Training, Truck Driving
- **Technology:** Secure Software Development, LAN Technician, CompTIA, A+, CCNA, CCNP
- **Workforce Readiness:** Essential Employability Skills Planning & Organizing

Illinois Central College Workforce Sustainability Center

The ICC Workforce Sustainability Center will help both first-time students and career changers. Having training and education programs - close to home - prepares potential job seekers with the skills they need to succeed. As more area workers develop skills to support the needs of the growing businesses, they will help communities attract raw investment and support a prosperous local economy.

Workforce Equity Initiative

The Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) is a statewide grant program focused on expanding training opportunities for minority students in at-risk communities. The WEI model is proving to be a successful methodology for achieving outstanding enrollment, completion, and employment outcomes.

WEI funding allows colleges to remove barriers to student success, which may include free tuition, childcare, transportation, and education supplies.

- **Transportation:** CDL Truck Driving
- **Computer Technology:** AWS, CCNA, CompTIA A+, IT Basics, Cybersecurity
- **Manufacturing:** Building Maintenance, CNC Operator, Industrial Machinery Mechanics, Welding
- **Healthcare:** Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA), Clinical Medical Assistant (CMA), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- **Repair:** Diesel Mechanic/Technician, Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC), Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning Refrigeration (HVACR)
- **Construction:** Construction General, Construction Management

A quality education is one that not only expands the mind and teaches critical thinking, but is also one that prepares a student for his/her future.”

- Dr. Sheila Quirk Bailey.



Talent Support Services



Greater Peoria Essential Abilities & Knowledge (GPEAK)

GPEAK is a regional collaboration between Illinois Central College, the CEO Council’s RWA, the Greater Peoria EDC, the Illinois Community College Board, JFF, and EdSystems. This curriculum sets the framework for essential employability skills:

- Teamwork & Conflict Resolution
- Adaptability & Flexibility
- Cultural Competence
- Communication
- Problem-Solving
- Decision Making
- Critical Thinking
- Initiative & Self Drive
- Reliability & Accountability
- Planning and & Organizing

This system is a free, open-source, online platform available to students, education systems, community-based organizations, and employers state-wide and provides certifications to individuals who have demonstrated mastery of an essential skill.

Illinois JobLink



This is a database for employers and job seekers in the state of Illinois. Employers can search the resumes of available employees in the region and find a ready workforce available and motivated to work. This resource, combined with talent development programs described previously, creates an environment for tailor-making the workforce you need.

Goodwill Industries



Goodwill of Central Illinois partners with more than 500 local employers to support job-readiness training and development of individuals and offers many services to help advance the careers of individuals throughout Greater Peoria:

- Job Search Assistance
- Hiring Events
- Resume Building Assistance
- Computer Skills Training
- People Skills Training
- 2 Employment Services Centers

“
Making Dreams a Reality; Not
just a job but a career.”

– Laura, Tazewell County

CareerLink



Apprenticeship Assistance - Provides financial resources to employers of apprentices. Individuals must meet WIOA eligibility criteria. This Federally funded service helps reduce the apprentices’ classroom training costs, provides wraparound services to the apprentice, and reimburses employers a percentage of the training wages.

Incumbent Worker Training - Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) assistance helps local employers develop and implement training programs for their existing employees to increase productivity and boost the company’s competitiveness.

Talent Support Services

On-the-Job Training - On-the-Job Training (OJT) assistance has been designed as a way of helping businesses manage the cost of training new employees. Through OJT, employers may be reimbursed 50 to 75% of an eligible new hire’s wages during a customized training period. The duration of the OJT assistance is determined by the job requirements and the individual’s skills. Individuals must meet WIOA eligibility criteria. Wage requirements may apply.

Regional Workforce Alliance

The RWA is a Collective Impact Organization formed in response to regional employer workforce challenges. Having a capable, sustainable workforce is the number one driver of growth, this collaborative works to stabilize and grow our economy by systematically connecting employers, educators, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders with the workforce to ensure 60% of the region’s workforce has the required certifications to obtain gainful employment.

Emerging Workforce Pillar - Addresses student career exploration, High School Experiences & College Credits, Career Decisions, Post-Secondary Credentials, Apprenticeships, and regional undergraduate and graduate programs focused on retaining recent graduates in the Region.

Upskilling Pillar - Targets underemployed and under-credentialed adults with work experience and training opportunities to obtain credentials that address workforce gaps for targeted industries, a majority of which are earn-and-learn programs and generally encompass wrap-around services for the individual.

Multiple Barriers Pillar - Focuses on adults who swirl through Community-Based Organizations and support systems with little-to-no credentials or work experience to qualify for entry-level job stabilization.

Employment Organizations

- Tri-County Urban League
- The Workforce Network
- Express Employment Pros.
- Advantage Staffing
- Kelly Services
- StaffQuick
- Adecco
- Resource Management Svcs.
- WeStaff
- Mathews Progress Grp.
- IDES
- STL Staffing
- Sedona Staffing
- Staffing Difference
- Diversified Personnel
- IL Employment & Training Ctr.
- Snelling Personnel
- Trillium
- Medical Staffing Partners
- Firststaff
- MidState Staffing
- Manpower
- Labor Ready
- Experience Works