



# COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATION ACT

## Model Policy

ExcelinEd Policy Toolkit - 2020

This document contains a model policy to spur innovation within college and career pathways by allowing schools and districts to apply for a waiver from state rules and regulations. Download this model policy as an [editable Microsoft Word document](#).

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this legislation is to allow districts and schools waivers from state rules and regulations to help increase authentic college and career pathways.

### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is recommended that this model pathway is combined with legislation to Convene K-12 and Postsecondary partners to help promulgate the rules and participate in the waiver review process. The sample policy on building cross-sector partnerships can be found [here](#).

### MODEL POLICY - COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATION ACT

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the (state):

#### Section 1: [Title]

- A. There is hereby established a Career Pathways Innovation Act (*state specific name*) to provide states and districts with the opportunity to apply for waivers from state rules and regulations that inhibit the launch or sustainability of workforce initiatives.

#### Section 2: [Foundational Elements of the Career Pathways Innovation Act]

- A. As used in this section the term waiver has the following meaning:
  - a. "Waiver" means the document requesting to be exempt from participating in the state rule or regulation.
- B. The (*Department of Education*) shall adopt rules to prescribe the conditions and procedures to be used in the submission and approval of the waivers. The (*Department of Education*) shall collaborate with the (*Department of Workforce and Economic Development*) and business and industry in developing and adopting the rules.
- C. The waivers shall annually be submitted by (*date*) for the upcoming school year. The (*Department of Education*) must approve or deny all waivers by (*date*).
- D. The initial approval shall be for a three (3) year period. The (*Department of Education*) may extend in three (3) year periods if the school has complied with the procedures determined by the (*Department of Education*) for renewal consideration including performance on evaluations.
- E. The (*Department of Education*) may recommend the revocation of innovation status if goals, performance indicators, or implementation milestones are not met.
- F. The waiver process shall include, at a minimum, the following:
  1. Description of the state rule and regulation and why it is presenting a barrier to a workforce initiative;
  2. A statement on how the waiver would still uphold the safety of the participating students;
  3. A resolution adopted by the local board supporting the waiver and any additional applicable letters of employer support;
  4. Documentation to show meaningful parental, educator, employer and community engagement for the changes identified in the waiver;
  5. Description of goals, performance indicators, implementation milestones and expected outcomes; and
  6. The resources and support the district will provide throughout implementation, including what flexibility will be given from local policies and procedures to support implementation.
- G. Federal regulations cannot be waived.
- H. The (*Department of Education*) shall develop and publish an annual report. Annual reports shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House articulating the findings,



implementation milestones and outcomes as outlined above. The report shall also include a list of requested and approved flexibility requests, rationale for denied of waivers, and statutory recommendations.

**Section 3: [Effective Date]**

The Act becomes effective \_\_\_\_\_.