

Global Learning FOR A Local Workforce

Strengthening & Future-Proofing Our Communities Through Global Learning

Why Global Learning Matters

In today's interconnected world, understanding how they fit into the global issues is critical for students pursuing any career path. The workforce evolves rapidly, and it is important to equip students with the ability to navigate this changing landscape. *Global Learning for a Local Workforce* connects classroom learning with real-world experiences, helping students gain the ability and confidence needed to market their skills, experiences, and knowledge, supporting their future success and helping them achieve their goals.

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About the Program

Global Learning for a Local Workforce is a professional development opportunity for middle and high school educators, counselors, and administrators. The program strengthens workforce readiness by promoting collaboration between schools and local employers. Students build new, durable and technical skills and gain insights on workforce readiness, and educators bring real-world relevance to their curriculum.



BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY



Economic resilience built over time with a workforce that is prepared to address global realities.



Learning that is aligned with local industry needs ensures that students develop relevant skills.



Stronger relationships between educators and employers foster community development.



A future workforce that is prepared to contribute to the region.



What is Global Learning?

Global Learning is a lifelong process of exploring global issues so that we understand our role in our global economy and develop the skills to live and contribute successfully and responsibly in our interconnected, changing world.



FOCUS AREAS INCLUDE

- Closing opportunity gaps and retaining talent
- Connecting classroom learning to future careers
- Promoting local economic vitality
- Exploring global connections, such as sustainability, sourcing, and exporting
- Studying emerging economic trends and career pathways
- Exploring employability skills and pathways to employment
- Understanding a changing workforce



Why Career-Connected Learning Matters

Career-connected learning is an investment in the future workforce, combining educational content with career readiness. Employers benefit by gaining a prepared and engaged workforce aligned with industry needs, while students see a clearer, more tangible path to career success.



For Employers

Employers who engage with this program will:

- **Reduce hiring and training gaps** by ensuring students are learning in-demand skills.
- **Build a strong pipeline** of local, skilled workers.
- **Gain employees** who understand the shifting demands of the local and global economy.
- **Position your company** as a leader in local workforce development.
- **Reach students early** and help them envision and pursue career pathways in your industry.

HOW IT WORKS

Employers can partner with the program in the following ways:

- **Host educators for a tour of your organization** to provide insight into local industries, showcase your global connections, and highlight employment pathways and critical employability skills.
- Participate in employer-educator **roundtable discussions**.
- **Partner with local schools** to offer continued career-connected learning opportunities for students and build relationships with the next generation of workers.
- **Continue collaborating with World Affairs Council** and their youth network to learn about the expectations of the future workforce.



Get Involved

Connect to discuss the opportunities for your workplace.

Contact youth@worldpittsburgh.org to get started.





For Educators

Educators play a vital role in shaping career-ready students. Participating in this program will:

- **Help students build new durable and technical skills** and gain insights on workforce readiness.
- **Engage students** in meaningful, real-world learning experiences.
- **Apply new resources** to create subject-specific content that meets district needs.
- **Form partnerships** with local employers, connect with national organizations, and build networks with other educational and community leaders.
- **Encourage students to explore** and think critically about global issues.

The program is eligible for Act 48 hours and meets Pennsylvania's Career Education and Work (CEW) Standards, including:

- ✓ Career Awareness and Exploration (13.1)
- ✓ Employability Skills (13.2)
- ✓ Growth and Advancement (13.3)
- ✓ Personal Interests and Career Planning (13.4)

KEY LEARNINGS

1

Learn about the skills students need to be competitive in our local workforce

2

Explore how “global learning” and “future readiness” connect to your classroom or school context

3

Learn about the local “educonomy,” how regional economic development and education are connected

4

Develop skills for building partnerships with local employers



HOW IT WORKS

Program content is delivered through a combination of in-person and virtual sessions.

Activities

- **Tour local businesses** to understand their global priorities.
- **Hear from team members** in various positions.
- **Explore other national models** of career-connected learning.
- **Hear about regional trends** and forecasts tied to employability and talent pipelines.
- **Network** with local employers.
- **Develop an action plan** to bring career-connected learning and workforce readiness to your students.



Get Involved

Join the program and encourage your school district to build cross-departmental teams.

Contact youth@worldpittsburgh.org to get started.



About World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh

Established in 1931, the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh is an independent, nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of international issues that shape our communities and the world. We work with educators, employers, community leaders, and youth to build a thriving, competitive, and inclusive region.

LEARN MORE

worldpittsburgh.org/about

Other World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh Programs

- [Public Programming](#) is designed to foster global mindedness and global connectivity in Pittsburgh. Whether on a bike trail, university campus, or local theater, the Council works to create inclusive and accessible experiences that generate transformed leadership for business and community leaders—and a greater sense of belonging for all.
- The [Youth Board and Youth Fellows program](#) provide high school students with hands-on leadership and career development. Youth Board members inform and advise on policies and practices of the Council that directly impact youth. The Youth Fellows work alongside Council team and other changemakers in the Pittsburgh region to lead the future of global learning. Youth Board members and Youth Fellows are both part of the Council's work to amplify youth voice by developing and implementing youth-led workshops.
- [Global Minds](#) is a by-youth, for-youth program that brings together immigrant-origin students and their locally born peers to catalyze youth-led action for inclusive and welcoming schools.
- The [Global Travel Scholars](#) program provides full scholarships to selected high school students with financial need to participate in a summer program abroad.
- The Council also offers youth-designed [seminars and conferences](#) during the year, including the annual World Affairs Institute.