

What is Tennessee Pathways?

Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Tennessee

We believe that all students deserve access to high-quality careers that provide a living wage and opportunities for advancement. **Tennessee Pathways** creates alignment between K-12, postsecondary education, and employers so that students have a clear and guided pathway to gain the knowledge and experience needed to move seamlessly into the workforce. Alongside our state's landmark tuition-free college grant programs—Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect—Tennessee Pathways directly supports the Drive to 55 goal to equip at least 55% of Tennesseans with a college degree or certificate by 2025.



How does it work?

Tennessee Pathways is structured around **three key elements** to support student enrollment and success in postsecondary programs:

- High-quality **college and career advisement** throughout K-12;
- Rigorous **early postsecondary and work-based learning opportunities** in high school; and
- **seamless vertical alignment** between K-12, postsecondary programs, and career opportunities as a result of **effective partnerships** among school districts, higher education institutions, employers, and community organizations.

State Investment

Tennessee Pathways is a statewide collaboration between the Tennessee Departments of Education; Labor and Workforce Development; Economic and Community Development; Tennessee Higher Education Commission; Tennessee Board of Regents, and employers. Tennessee Pathways includes an investment in **Regional Coordinators**, who are on-the-ground advisors working to connect schools, colleges, and employers to create opportunities for students.



School & District Recognition

Tennessee Pathways Certification. Beginning in the spring of 2019, schools can apply for the Tennessee Pathways Certification to earn recognition for creating strong alignment between their high school programs of study, postsecondary partners, and high-quality employment opportunities. Schools can earn the certification through an application and site visit and, if approved, qualify for statewide recognition and additional grants to support their programs. This recognition program ensures students, families, and the community know high-quality pathways exist for students to transition seamlessly from K-12 education into higher education and high-quality employment.

How can I get involved?

To learn more about Tennessee Pathways visit PathwaysTN.com, follow us on Twitter @TN_Pathways, or contact Tennessee.Pathways@tn.gov.