

Bridging the Gap – Building Understand and Successful Connections between DVR and WTCS

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Session Goals

Provide general
overview of
Wisconsin Technical
College System and
services

Identify points of
connection

WIOA Performance Measures

- Employment Rate – 2nd Quarter After Exit
- Employment Rate- 4th Quarter After Exit
- Median Earnings- 2nd Quarter After Exit
- Credential Attainment
- Measurable Skill Gain
- Effectiveness in Serving Employers



WTCS Survey Results

- Review what DVR is, what we do and how to apply
- Overview of who is eligible, services and how to contact DVR
- Understand DVR process and consumer/student expectation
- Explain how DVR post secondary funding works and support for adaptive technology
- Where to learn more about DVR





What is DVR?

- The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) provides individualized services to anyone with a disability who wants to work

DVR Mission

To assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining, maintaining, or improving employment

Find a Job.
Keep a Job.
Get a Better Job.





What Does DVR Do?

- DVR is actively engaged with nearly 15,000 job seekers with disabilities who are working towards an employment goal
- DVR job seekers develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) with their DVR counselor, which defines:
 - The job goal
 - The services that are need to reach that goal
 - The job-seeker's role and responsibilities
- An individual's services with DVR will depend on their job goal.





Examples of DVR Services

- ✓ Vocational guidance and counseling
- ✓ Job search and job placement assistance
- ✓ Information and referral services
- ✓ Transition-to-work services for high school students with disabilities
- ✓ Supported employment services for persons with severe disabilities
- ✓ Rehabilitation technology
- ✓ Vocational, post-secondary education and other training
- ✓ Disability and employment assessment
- ✓ Occupational licenses, tools and other equipment
- ✓ Assistance in small-business plan development
- ✓ Interpreter services





Who is Eligible for DVR?

- An individual is eligible for DVR services if:
 - They have a disability diagnoses, documented by a medical professional or qualified personnel
 - Their disability diagnoses makes it hard for them to find and keep a job
 - They need DVR services to help with reach their employment goal
 - If an individual receives SSI/SSDI based on their own disability, they are automatically eligible for DVR services.





Who is Eligible for DVR?

- Services are related to helping the person get a job, keep a job or get a better job
- DVR cannot find individuals ineligible based solely on:
 - Duration of residency
 - Type of disability
 - Ages, sex, race, color, or national origin
 - Type of expected employment outcome
 - Educational status or current educational credential
 - Source of referral
 - Particular service needs
 - Anticipated cost of services
 - Income level of applicant or family
 - Current or past employment status



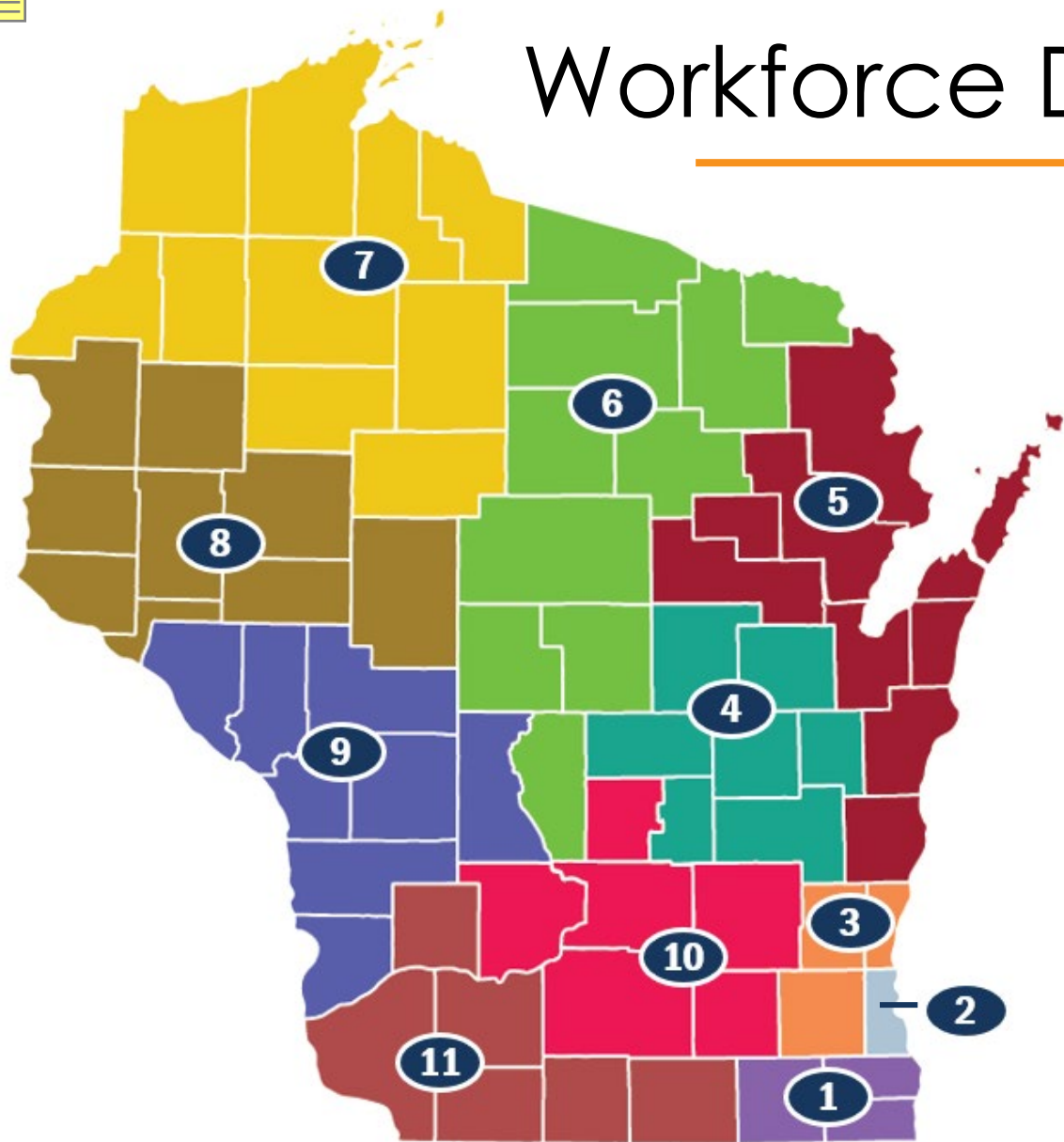


How to apply for DVR?

- A referral form can be found online or sent out:
 - <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/referral/>
 - Contact local office to get a paper referral or (800) 442-3477
- A individual can call and complete referral over the phone
- DVR Staff Directory:
<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/about/staff-directory.pdf>



Workforce Development Areas (WDAs)



1	Southwest
2	Milwaukee
3	WOW Counties
4	Fox Valley
5	Bay Area
6	North Central
7	Northwest
8	West Central
9	Western
10	South Central
11	Southwest



DVR Director Locations

Other DVR Locations

Ladysmith:
1104 Lake Ave. West

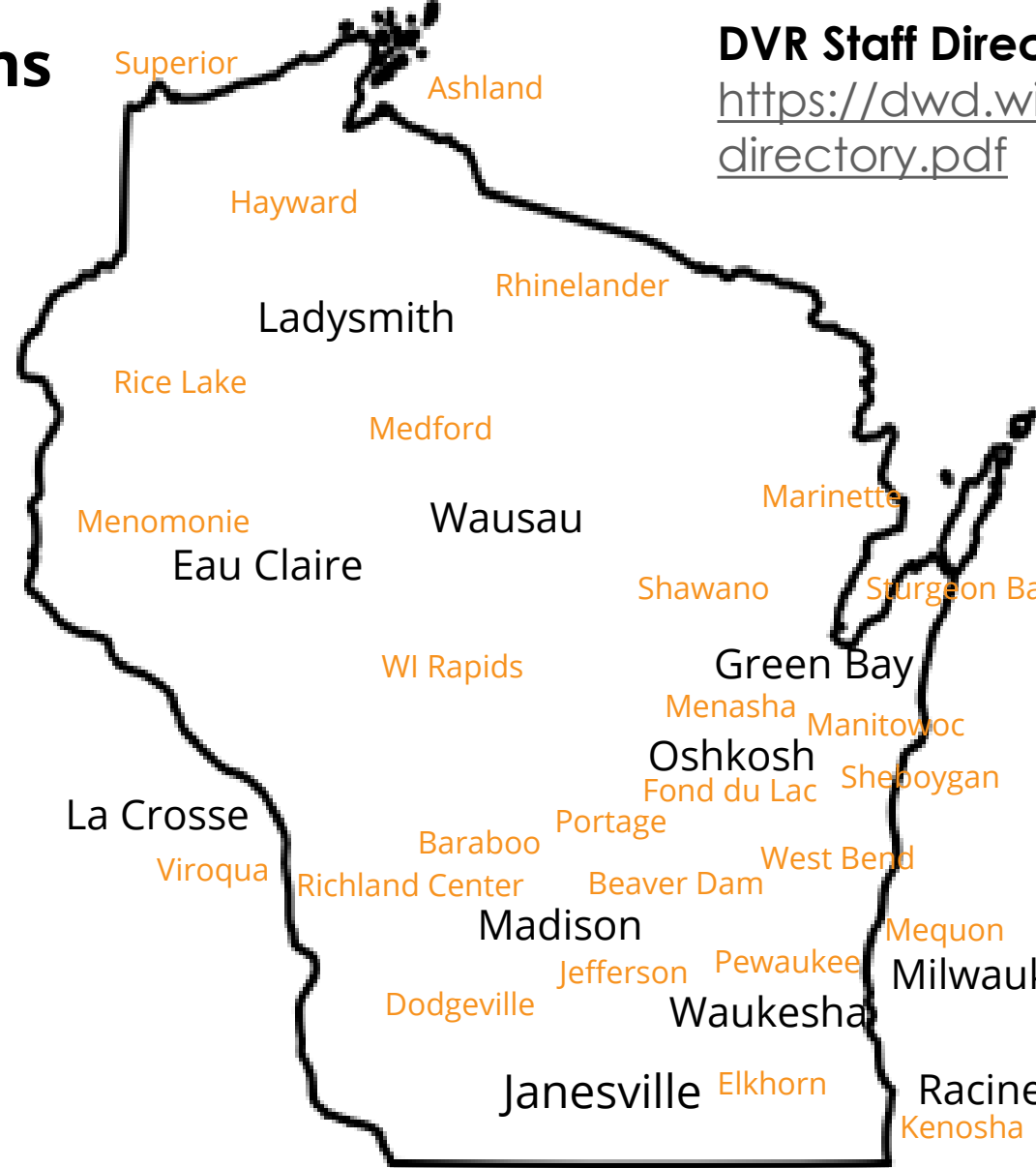
Wausau:
364 Grand Ave.

Eau Claire:
221 W. Madison St.

La Crosse:
2615 East Ave. South

Madison:
1801 Aberg Ave.

Janesville:
1900 Center Ave.



DVR Staff Directory:

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/about/staff-directory.pdf>

Green Bay:
301 N. Adams St.

Oshkosh:
219 Washington Ave.

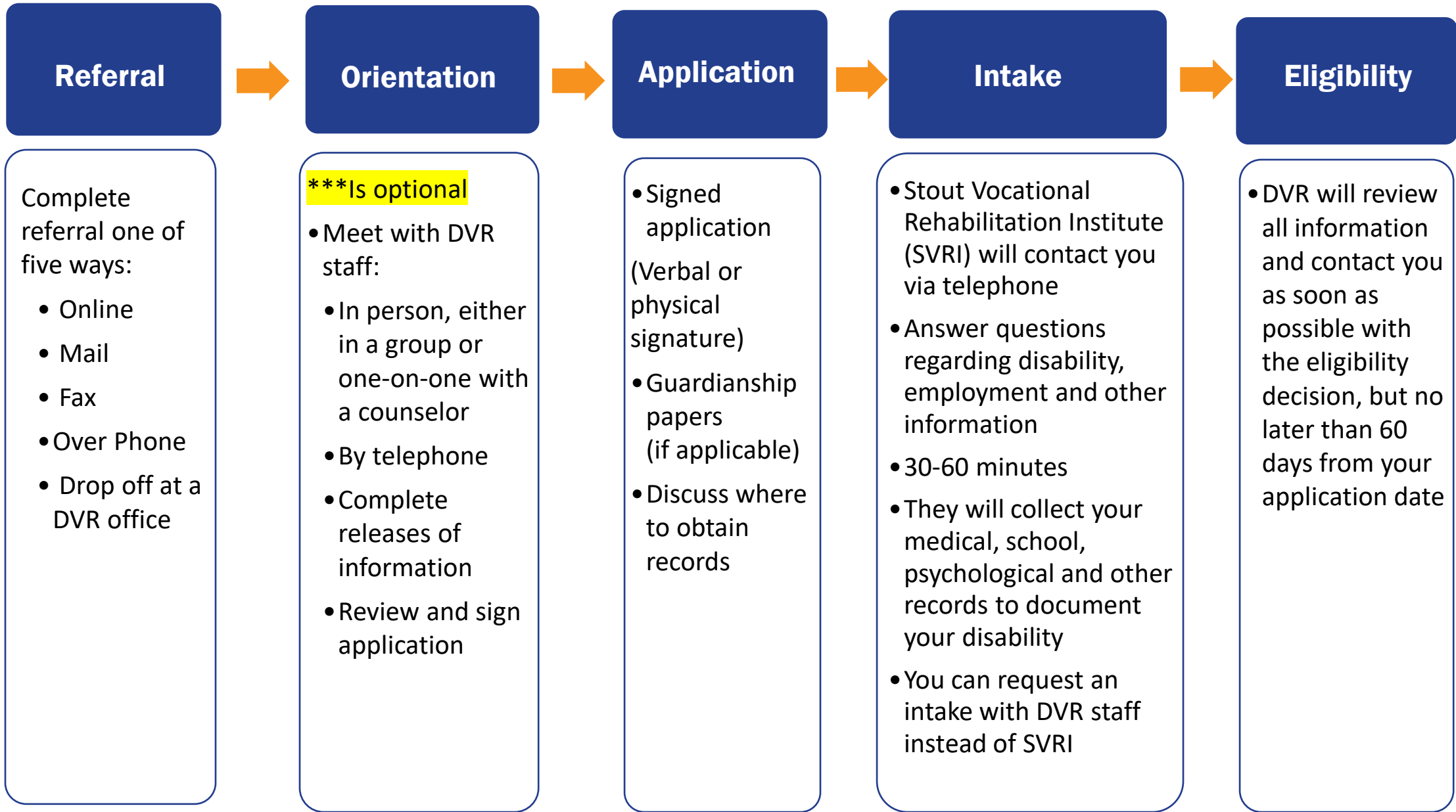
Milwaukee:
2701 S. Chase Ave.

Racine:
1516 S. Green Bay Rd.

Waukesha:
2607 N. Grandview Blvd.

* 90% of DVR staff provide job-seeker and/or employer outreach/support service at the local level







What is the consumer role?

- To be open and honest; willing to discuss their disability and inform DVR of any changes that may impact their work.
- Attend DVR appointments. Call ahead to cancel if needed.
- DVR may ask them to do some work in between meetings if they are able to. These are important activities in helping them move toward successful employment.
- Contact DVR when they have been offered a job and share their start date and wage information.





Closure of DVR File

- Consumers DVR file will be closed successfully when:
 - They have reached your employment goal, **AND**
 - They have maintained their job for 90 days
- Consumers file may also be closed if:
 - They decide that they cannot or do not want to work with DVR, at this time
 - They fail to keep contact with DVR and DVR cannot get ahold of them by phone, letter or e-mail





Post Secondary Education Funding

Factors that *may* determine how funding for education will work:

- Does the degree gained match consumer job goal
 - Is this a field consumer can succeed in with their barriers
- Is the individual going to an in-state/public school
- Is this a financial aid eligible program
- Is it graduate school or summer school
- Is consumer on academic or financial aid probation/suspension
- Is consumer SSI/SSDI recipient





Post Secondary Education Funding

- If an individual is going to a public school for a financial aid funded program, DVR will use the Training Grant calculation for funding.
- Training Grant Calculation:
 - DVR Cost of Attendance
 - No Additional Living Expenses
 - DVR Unmet Need
 - Exception Request
 - Training Grant Portal
 - Consumer Expectations
 - Other Grants Scholarships
 - Career Pathways (CPA) Grant





Adaptive Technology

- Individuals that may need adaptive technology will work with their individual DVR staff to assist in this request.
- Technology needs are supported on an individualized basis and depending on need/long term goal of consumer.
- If the college is providing some technology, the adaptive technology specialist the consumer is working with can help make sure consumer technology is compatible.



Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS)

- 270,000 students at nearly 60 locations
- Hundreds of Career Pathway programs consisting of in-demand industry-validated credentials stacked into pathways
- High Satisfaction rates from both students and employers



Who Do We Serve?

High School Students

Adult learners with no secondary credentials or in need of additional academic support

English Language Learners

Justice Involved Populations

High School Graduates

Business Consultations, Customized Instruction

Adult Education – It's More Than the GED

WTCS offers adult education and skills development programs that accelerate achievement of diplomas and credentials among WI residents, including immigrants and individuals with limited English language skills.



In FY 21-22, WTCS served over 24,000
adult learners in AE/ESL



354,000+ adults without a HS degree
142,000+ adults who do not speak
English well or at all

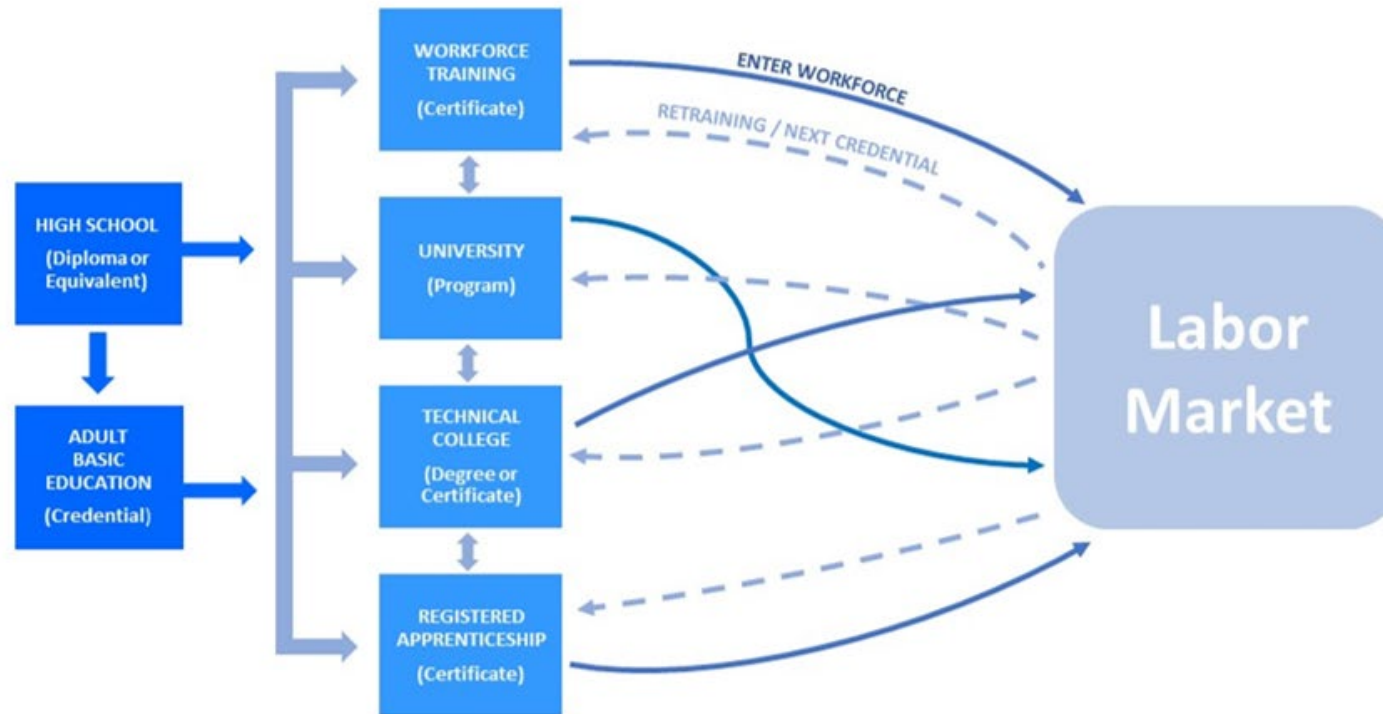


The Student Journey

Multiple entrance and exit points

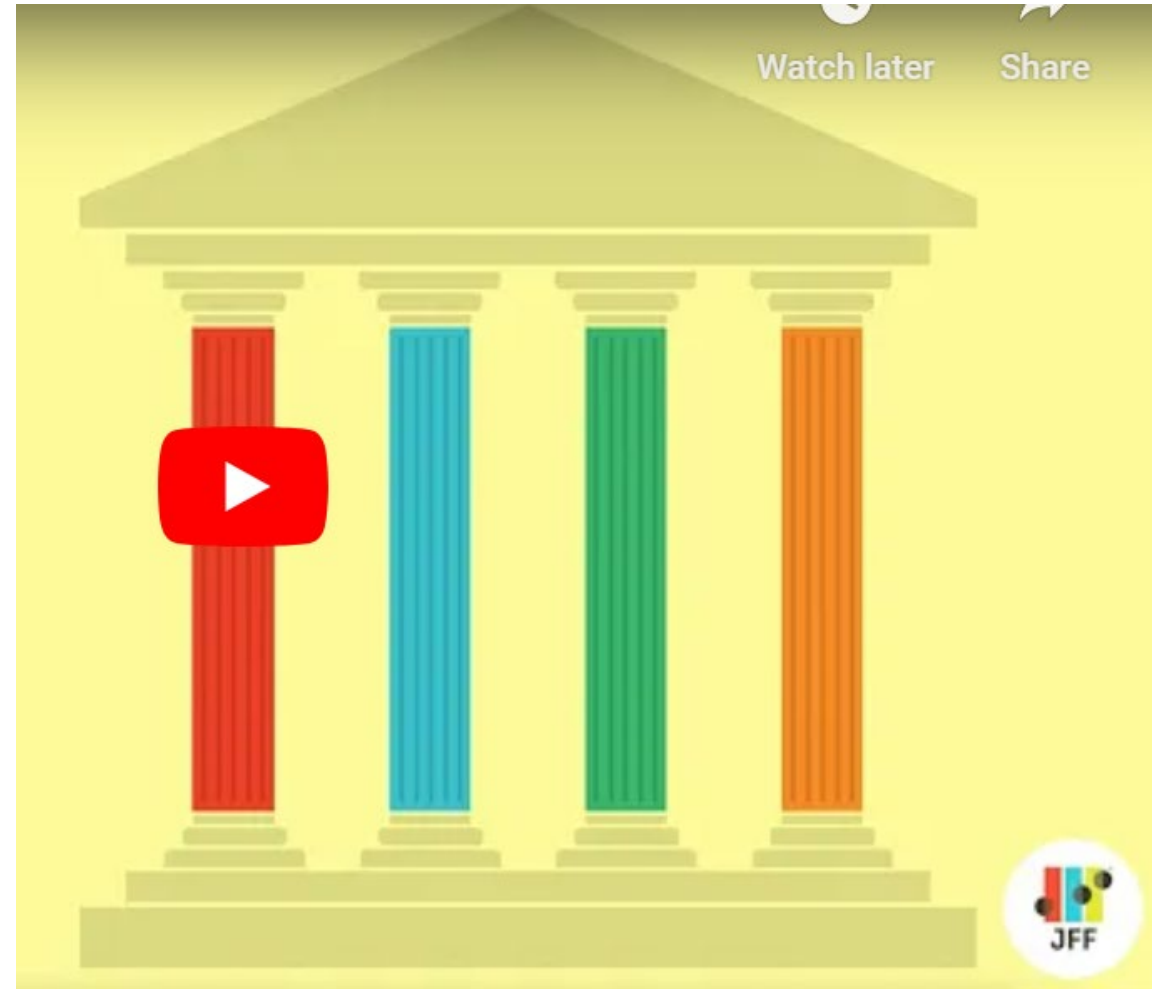
Career Pathways

Career Pathways in Wisconsin



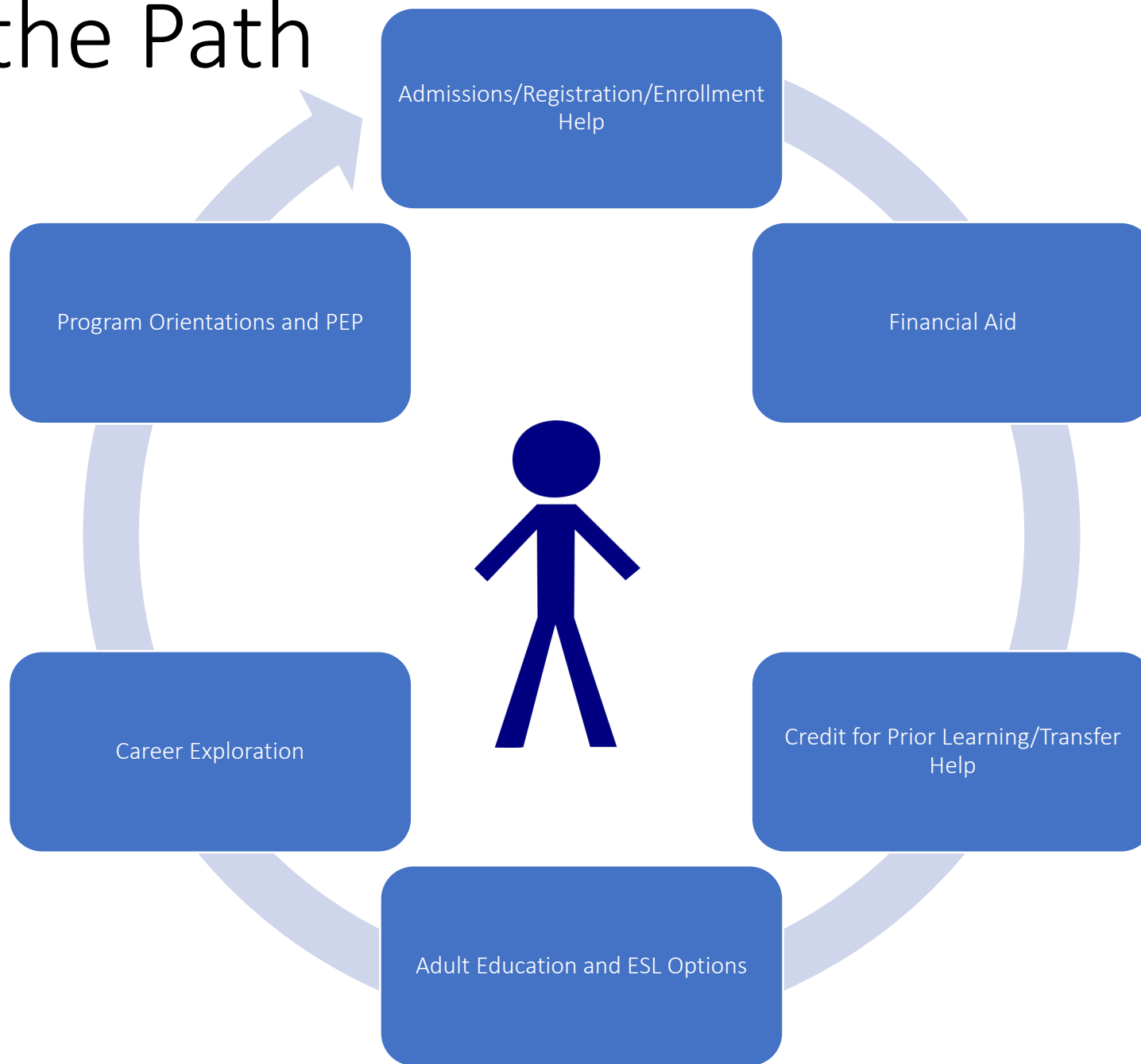
Pillars of Guided Career Pathways

1. Clarify paths to student end goals
2. Help students choose and enter a pathway
3. Help students stay on path
4. Ensure that students are learning

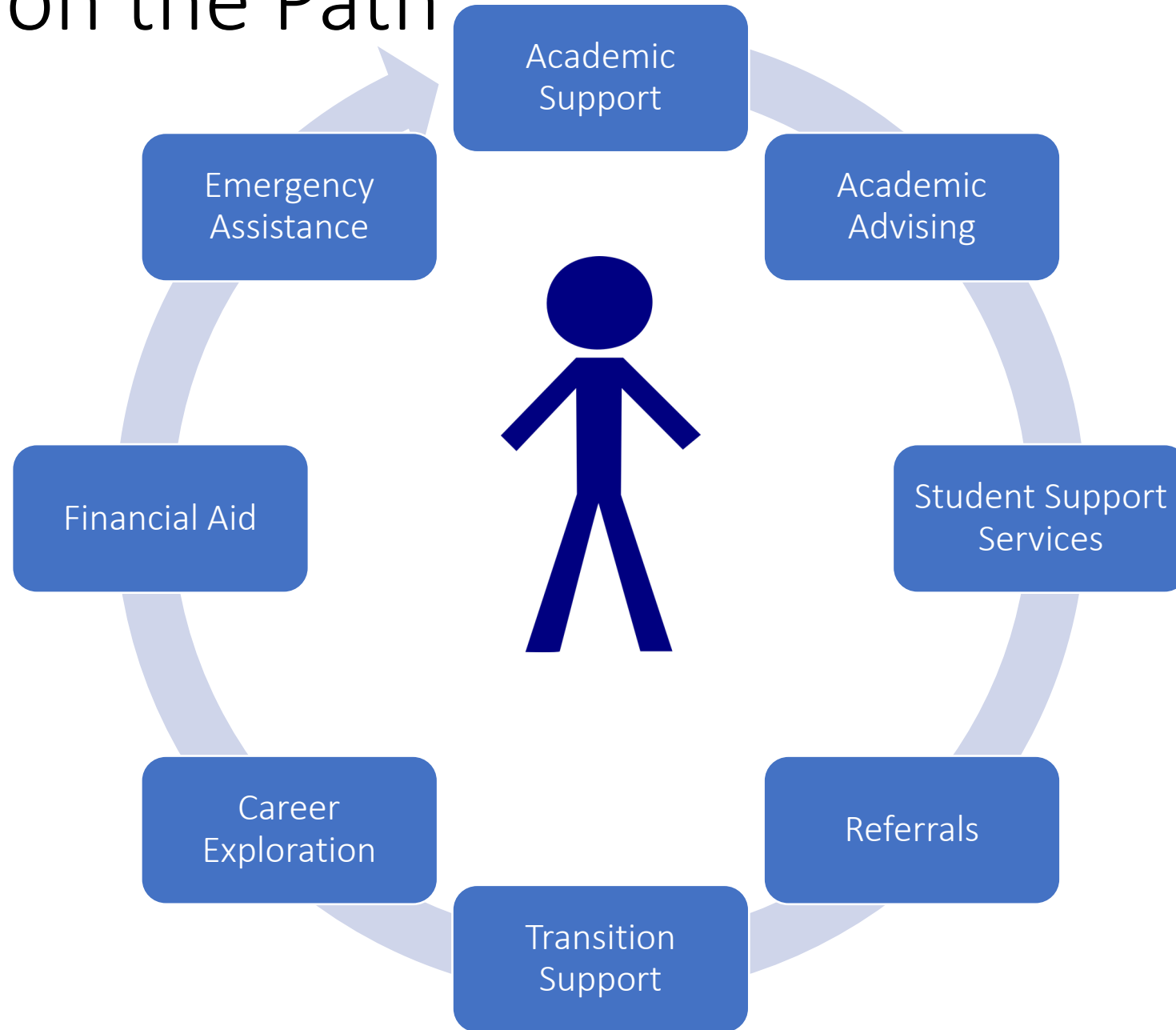




Getting on the Path



Staying on the Path



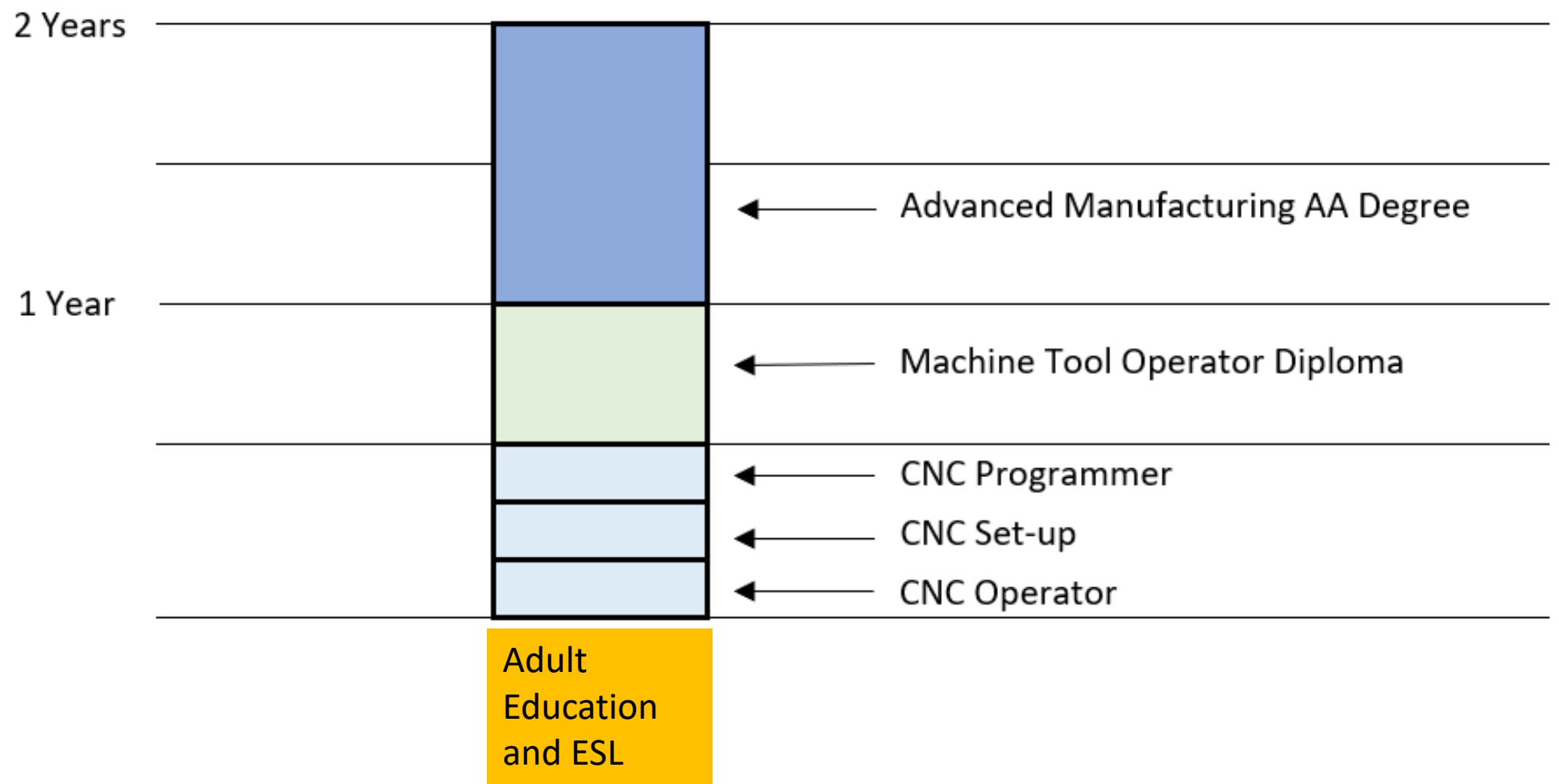
The Student Journey on a Career Pathway



Adult
Ed/GED/HSED/ESL/Bridge
Programming

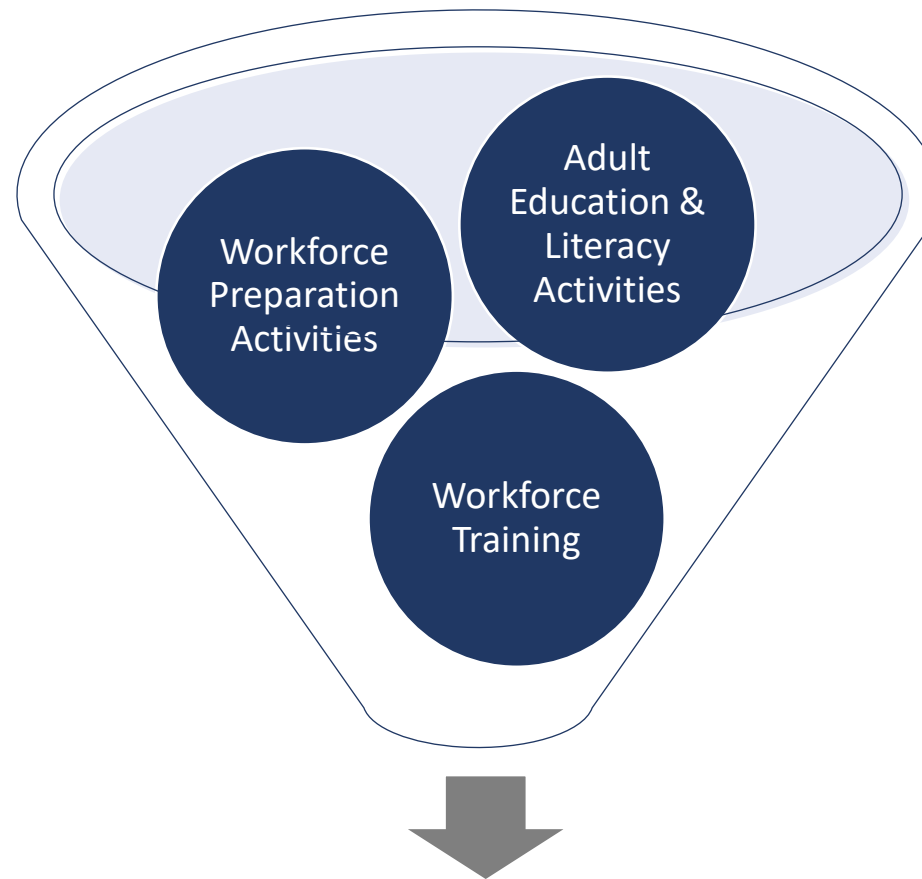


Our System's Career Pathways Are Well-Established



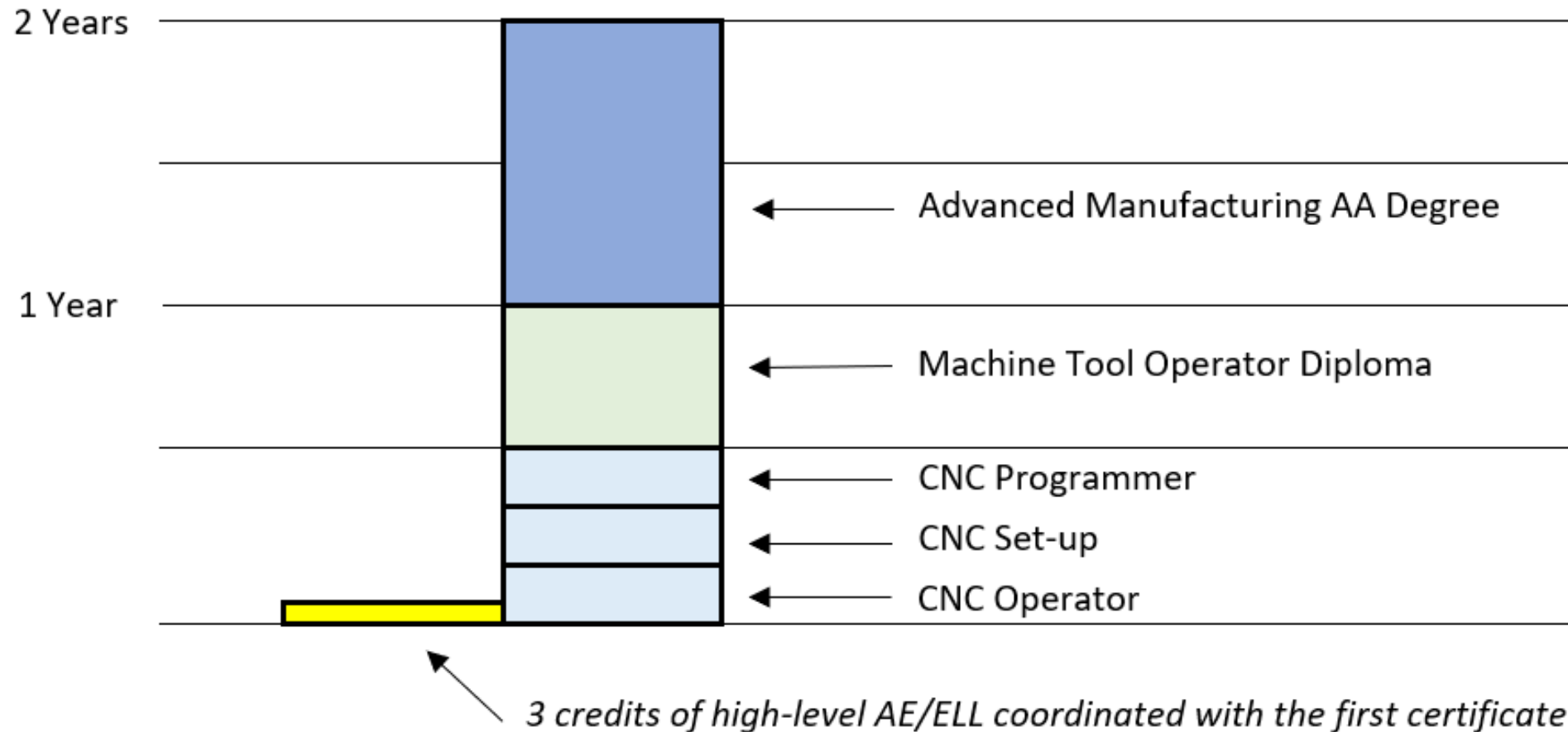
What is Integrated Education & Training?

A service approach that provides adult education and literacy activities *concurrently* and *contextually* with workforce preparation activities and workforce training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster for the purpose of educational and career advancement (34 CFR § 463.35).



Integrated Education and Training

A Career Pathway Is Improved Through Use Of An IET



Career Pathways continued



Resources



[WTCS Website](#)- external facing- when working with students



[Internal Website](#)- internal website- helpful for you

Recommendations

Learn

Become familiar with the technical college in your district

Connect

Connect with commonly accessed departments like Disability Services, Financial Aid, and Adult Education/ESL

Collaborate

Connect with Title II programs generally found in Adult Education and ESL at the technical college

Questions/Discussion



Reflection Questions



- What are successful ways for us to collaborate with WIOA partners to help with referrals/pathways/goals of our consumers/students?
- What challenges have you had and how do we solve them?
- What are 2 steps you will take, when you go back to your office, to put what you learned today into action?

Other Resources

- Job Accommodation Network (JAN)
 - <https://askjan.org/>
- Great Lakes ADA Center
 - <http://www.adagreatlakes.org/>
- DVR Referrals
 - <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/referral/>
- Job Center of Wisconsin
 - <https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/>



Contact Us

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