

ILLINOIS Pathways

Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

www.ilpathways.com

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Illinois Pathways – Strategies

Illinois Pathways consists of two strategies...

- 1) Supports youth and adult programs that empower learners to explore their academic and career interests in STEM fields with an emphases on:
 - a) Fully integrated academic and career instruction (Common Core, NGSS & CTE);
 - b) Work-based learning; and
 - c) Stackable credentials, both academic and industry.
- 2) Supports local education and training programs through the launch of transformative public-private partnership networks:
 - a) Statewide, sector-based STEM Learning Exchanges; and
 - b) Regional intermediaries.

Illinois Pathways – STEM Learning Exchanges

- Launched public-private networks in each of the identified STEM application areas
- Organized to support local implementation of P-20 STEM Programs of Study by improving coordination and reducing the transaction cost among network partners.
- Available to partner with and support K-12, postsecondary and workforce programs statewide.



Illinois Pathways – Summary of Learning Exchange Formation Process

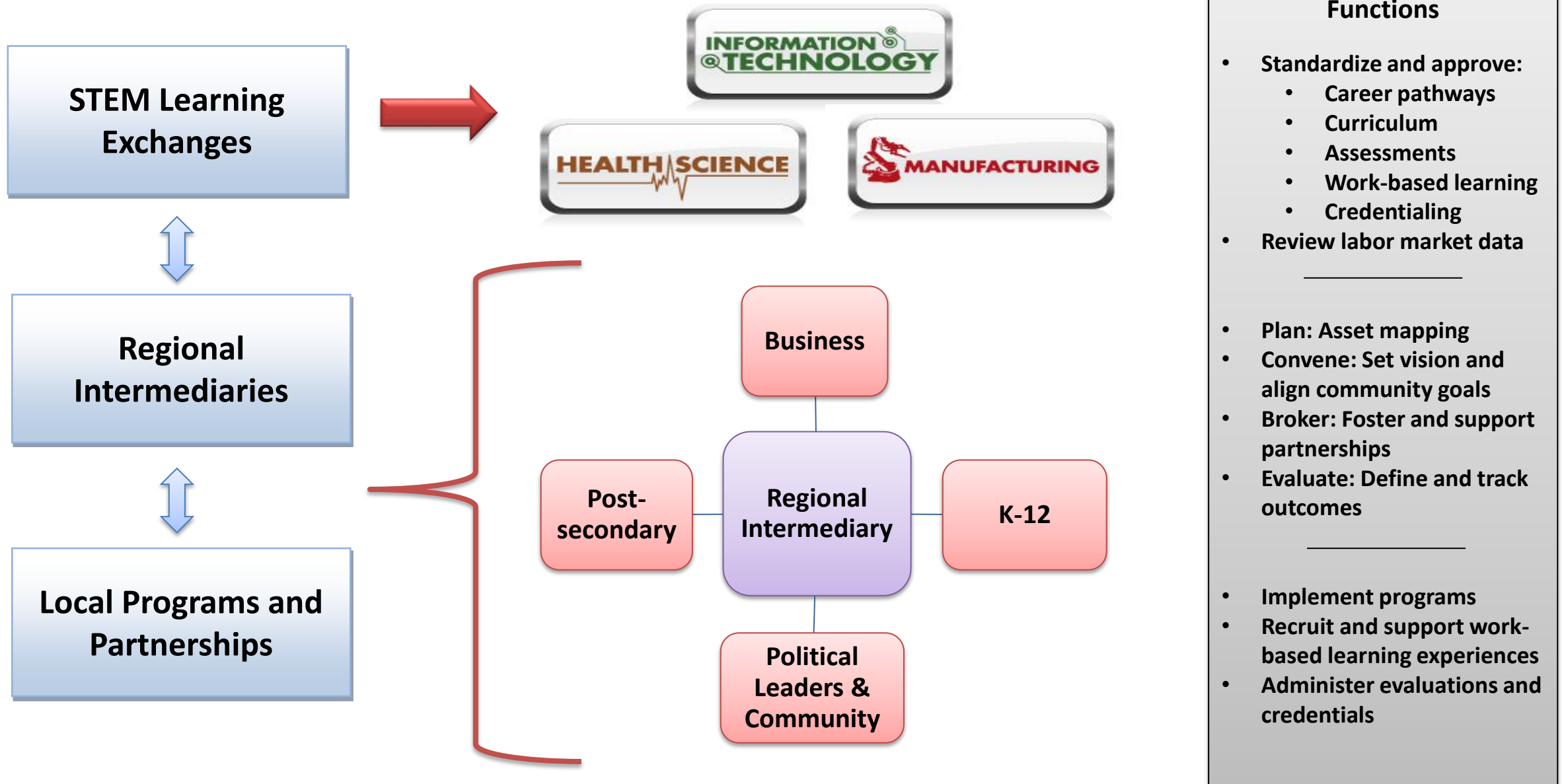
Now that STEM Learning Exchanges are established they are each undergoing a strategic planning process to address initial network priorities.

- 1) Inventory partner activities and conduct gap analysis.
 - a) Within the manufacturing group an inventory was taken of each corporate (e.g. Caterpillar), philanthropic (e.g. Boeing Foundation) and state investment in their field.
- 2) Execute top priorities as a start.
 - a) The Manufacturing STEM Learning Exchange has identified K-12 teacher professional development and community college faculty training and certification as a top priority. In addition, the Exchange identified a statewide need to revamp and upgrade equipment as well as the need to maximize utilization of resources.
- 3) Develop portfolio of public-private investments to sustain network activities.
 - a) The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity identified the Manufacturing Learning Exchange as a vehicle for a DOL Workforce Innovation Fund grant.

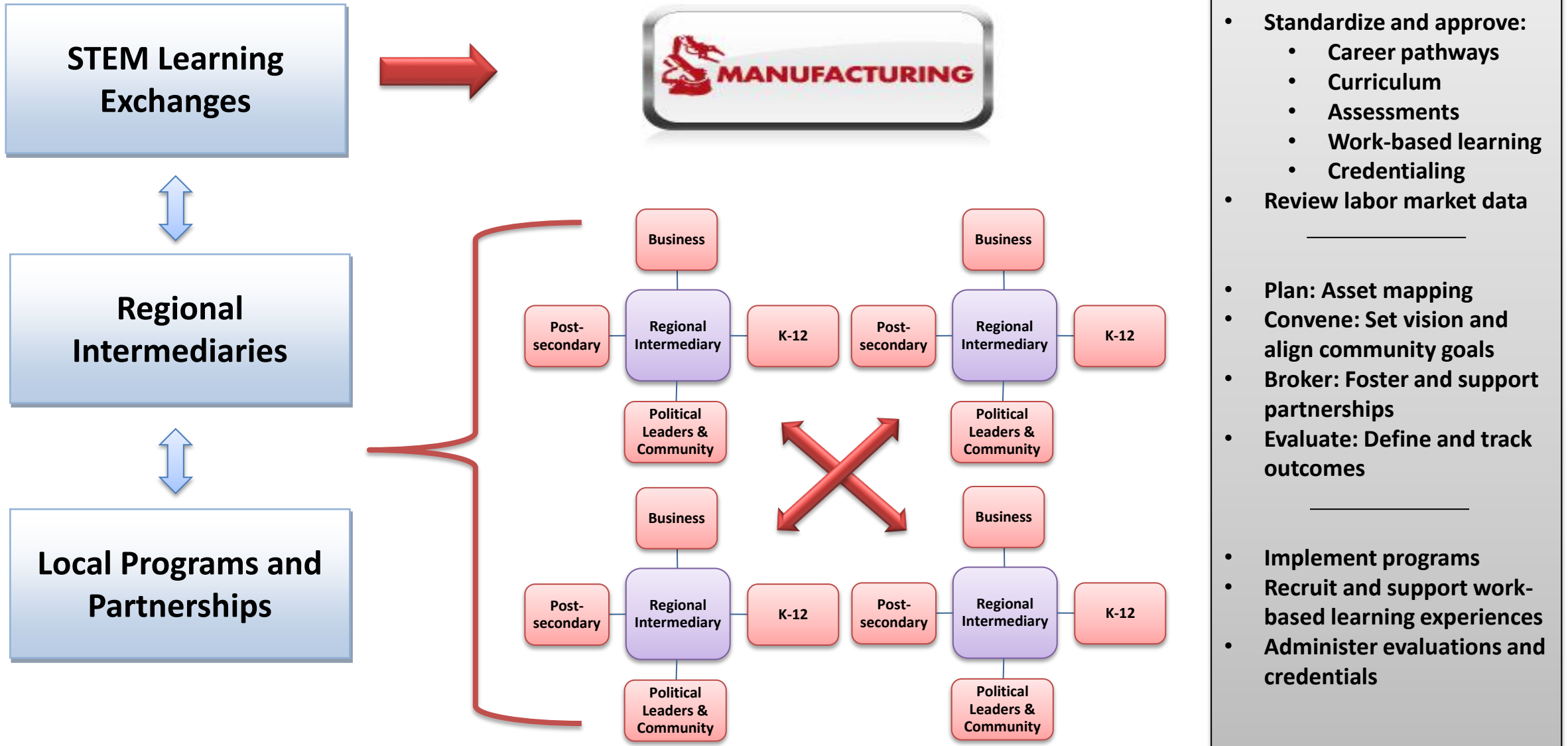
Illinois Pathways – Regional Intermediaries

- A regional intermediary is a public-private coordinating organization that includes representation from public institutions, employers and community stakeholders that support local implementation and delivery of pathways initiatives by:
 - 1) Developing goals and strategies;
 - 2) Aligning resources and coordinating service delivery; and
 - 3) Ensuring partner performance and accountability.
- Regional intermediaries can be implemented through an existing institution (e.g. community college, university, workforce board, etc...) or as a new organization (e.g. Alignment Rockford).

Illinois Pathways – Systemic Alignment of Regional Intermediaries



Illinois Pathways – Networks of Regional Intermediaries



Illinois Pathways – Recommendations for YCC Grantees

- 1) Define the region based on economic development objectives, labor market information and partnership institutions and organizations.
- 2) Conduct a baseline assessment of existing capacity, resources and challenges.
- 3) Prioritize sector focus that aligns with economic development objectives.
- 4) Identify existing organizations that may have the capacity to serve as a regional intermediary or establish the need for a new entity.
- 5) Secure meaningful employer engagement and buy-in from critical partners.
- 6) Establish connections with statewide employer networks and other regional intermediaries.