



7 PRINCIPLES

for Effective Work-Based Learning

Support entry and advancement
in a career track



Provide meaningful job
tasks that build career skills
and knowledge



Offer compensation



Identify target skills and
how gains will be validated



Reward skill development



Support college entry,
persistence, and completion



Provide comprehensive
student supports



Jobs for the Future is a national nonprofit that works to ensure educational and economic opportunity for all. We develop innovative career and educational programs and public policies that increase college readiness and career success and build a more highly-skilled workforce. With over 30 years of experience, JFF is the national leader in bridging education and work to increase economic mobility and strengthen our economy.

Work-based learning at its best integrates academic learning with real-world application to provide paths to educational and career advancement and build the talent pipeline. This approach holds great promise for low-income and lower-skilled youth and adults, who all too often lack equitable access to high-quality work-based learning experiences that can serve as steppingstones to increased economic opportunities.

JFF has identified seven principles that support youth and adults seeking to enter and advance in careers. Together, these principles encourage the design of work-based learning models that increase access to work-based learning for all, provide participants with key training and work experience, and help employers meet their needs for a skilled workforce.

Learn more about expanding access to work-based learning in JFF's suite of recently-released and upcoming resources. **Making Work-Based Learning Work:** A paper that articulates the basis for JFF's seven principles for effective work-based learning. | **Work-Based Learning in Action:** A series of case studies that highlight the principles at work in six work-based learning models, such as registered apprenticeships and work-based courses. Available at jff.org/publications