NM Skill Up Network
I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education And Skills Training)

Research and Public Service Project Proposal (RPSP)

Program Overview

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Introduction

- *Skill Up Network (**SUN**)*
  - US Dept. of Labor "TAACCCT" grant

- *SUN Mission:*
  - *To expand and improve the ability of community colleges in New Mexico to deliver education and career training programs that can be completed in two years or less.*

  - *To prepare program participants to succeed in acquiring the skills, degrees, and credentials needed for high-wage, high-skill employment while also meeting the needs of employers in New Mexico.*

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What Is I-BEST?

- An innovative program developed in Washington State.
- Integrates Adult Basic Education with career and technical training through a team teaching approach.
- Delivers demand-driven career pathways based on regional and statewide industry need.
- Designed to increase post-secondary credential attainment for low-skilled individuals.
- Accelerates basic skills students' transition into and through college-level occupational field of study.

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The Context:

Why Is I-BEST Important For New Mexico?

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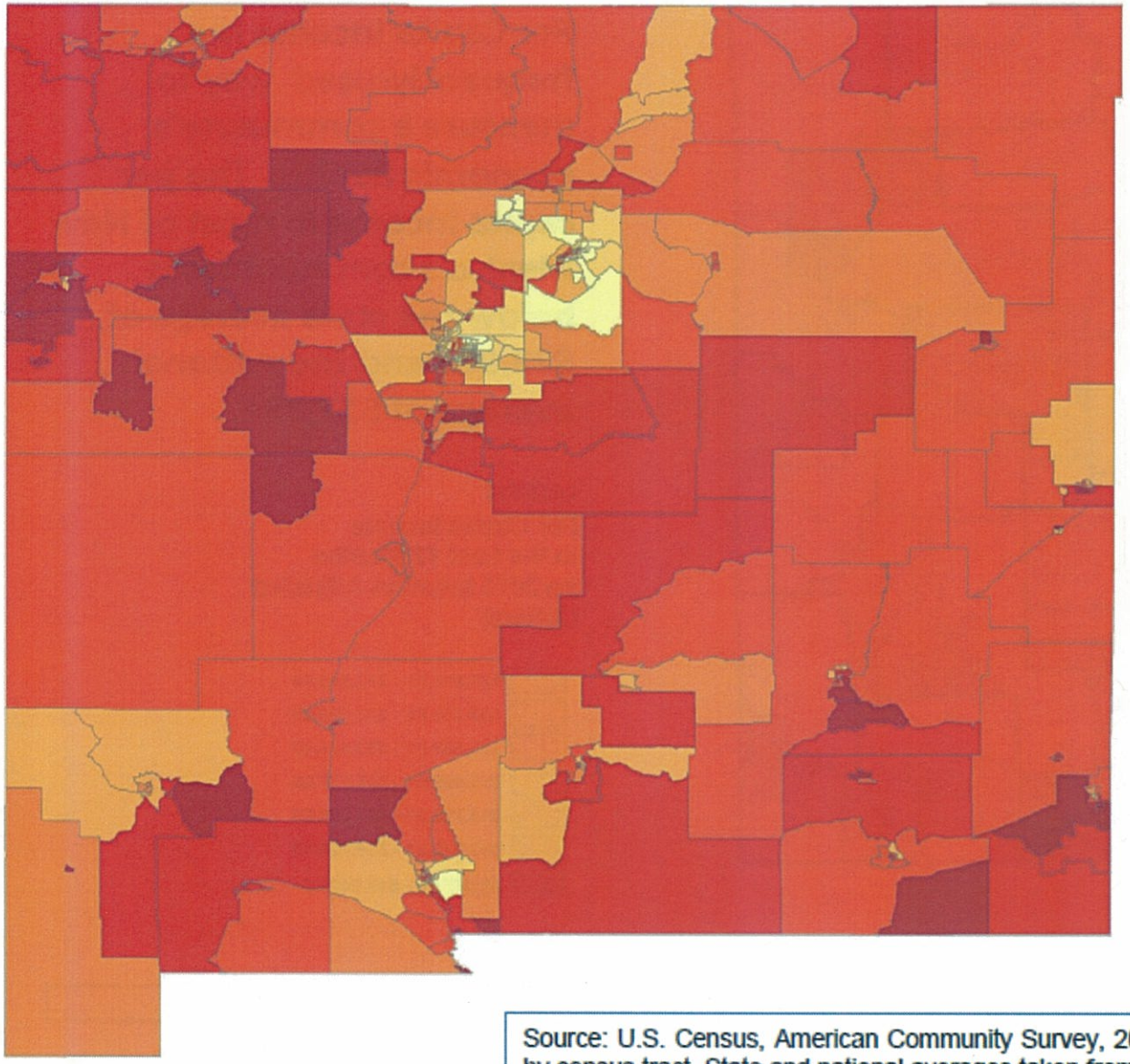
Percentage of Individuals Over 25 Years of Age With an Associates Degree or Higher, By Census Tract



Legend

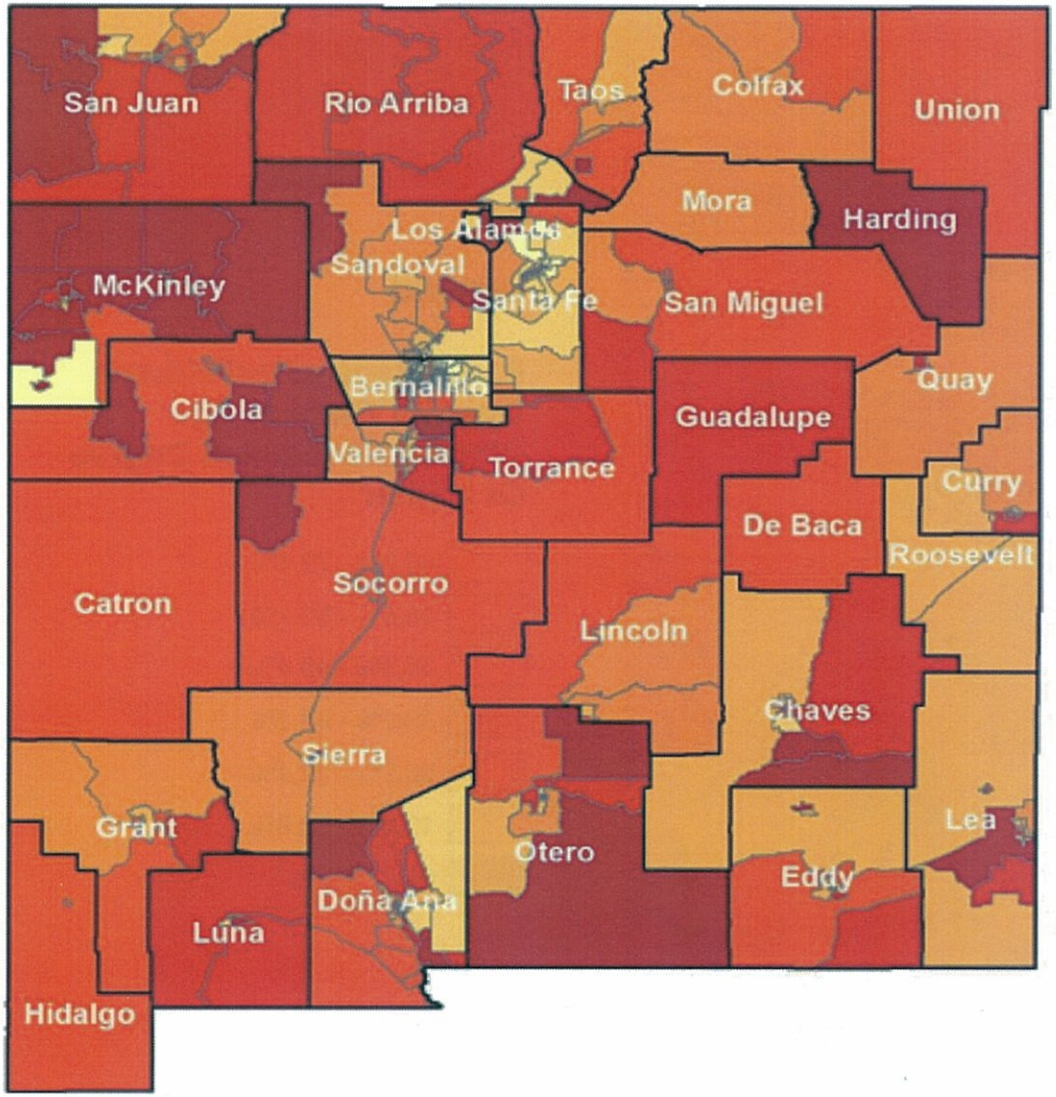
Percentage of Individuals Over 25 Years of Age With an Associates Degree Or Higher

- 60.8% - 79.4%
- 48.5% - 60.7%
- 38.2% - 48.4%
- 29.2% - 38.1%
- 20.9% - 29.1%
- 13.3% - 20.8%
- 0% - 13.2%

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2006-2010 Five-Year Estimates. Rates are reported by census tract. State and national averages taken from the 2010 American Community Survey (state avg. = 32.6%; national avg. = 35.4%).

UNM CENTER for EDUCATION POLICY RESEARCH

Per Capita Income In New Mexico



Per Capita Income is a frequently-used way to measure a community's economic health. The per capita income in most of New Mexico's communities is below the state average of $22,966 and the national average of $27,334.

Legend
Per Capita Income in the Last 12 Months (in 2010 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)

- $46,598.01 - $81,545.00
- $33,456.01 - $46,598.00
- $25,857.01 - $33,456.00
- $21,095.01 - $25,857.00
- $16,723.01 - $21,095.00
- $12,240.01 - $16,723.00
- $2,077.00 - $12,240.00

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

The Cost Of Remediation

- Nationally, 1.7 million students (over 50% of new college students) begin college in remedial education each year.
- $3 billion is spent on remedial courses each year.
- 4 in 10 remedial students never complete their remedial courses.
- Of those that do complete remedial courses, less than a quarter complete gateway college level math and English classes.
- Fewer than 1 in 10 graduate from community colleges in 3 years and little more than a third complete bachelor's degrees in 6 years.

SOURCE: Remediation: Higher Education's Bridge to Nowhere. Complete College America

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Washington State's I-BEST Program

Currently serves about 2,800 students, with more than 140 programs at all 34 community colleges statewide.

Research conducted separately by the Community College Research Center and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board found that I-BEST students outperform similar students enrolled in traditional basic skills programs.

I-BEST students are:

- 3 times more likely to earn college credits.
- 9 times more likely to earn a workforce credential.
- Employed at double the hours per week (35 hours versus 15 hours).
- Earning an average of $2,310 more per year than similar adults who did not receive the training

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I-BEST In New Mexico

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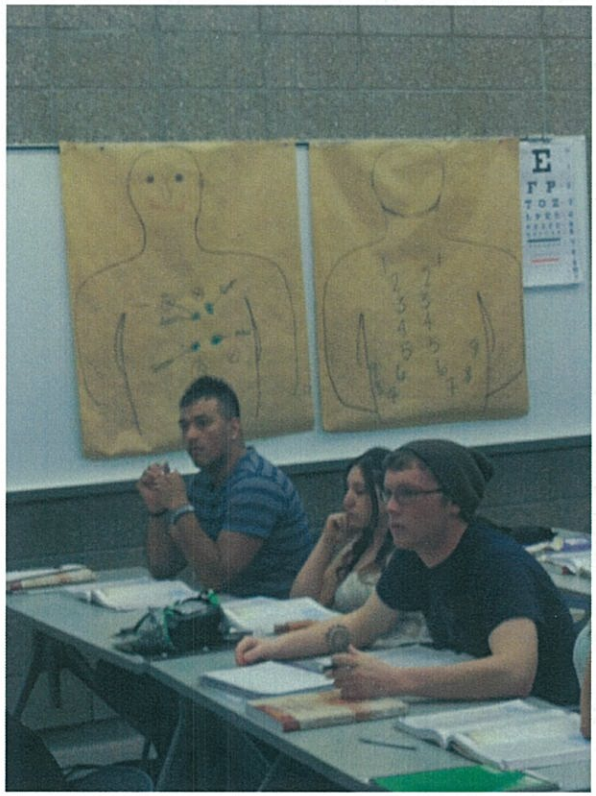
Who Are The I-BEST Students?



Home Health Aide Class - SFCC

Target Population:

- Underprepared students seeking skills that lead to higher wage and higher skill jobs
- Adult Basic Education students, with plans to expand to include developmental education students
- Low-skilled students testing below college level (12.9 on the ABE test) in Math and English, testing at a minimum of 6th grade level
- Primarily low-income

Current I-BEST Student Demographics (2013):

- 72% Hispanic, 3% Native American, 20% Anglo
- 62% Female, 38% Male

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I-BEST credentials and employers

I-BEST certificates are embedded in AA degrees so students can enter the workforce and/or continue their education. Certificates include:

- Certificates of Employability in Pharmacy Technician, Emergency Medical Technician.
- Occupational Certificates in Wind Energy, Farrier Science, Home Health Aide.
- Preparation for Industry Recognized Certificate Exams in Early Childhood Development, Certified Nurse Assistant, OCEA Certification.

Sample list of employers:

- Pharmacies include: Walgreens, K-Mart, Sam's Club, and Prim drug.
- Wind Energy: High Lonesome, Cap Rock, and House Wind Farms.
- Early Childhood Development: Head Start.
- Home Health Aide: Nurses with Heart Home care, Advantage Home Care and Hospice, A Nurse in the Family.

Current Overview of I-BEST Programs To Date: Spring '12 to Spring '14

College	Program of Study	Total # of I-BEST Students	Total # of Completers	Total # Credentials Earned	Total # of Students Still in Process	Total # of Students Stopped Out or Not Currently Enrolled
Doña Ana CC	Building Construction Trades	18	17	17	0	1
	Certified Nursing Assistant*	16	15	15	0	1
	ElectroCardioGram*	12	11	11	0	1
	Phlebotomy	29	27	27	0	2
	Total Unique	**69**	**64**	**64**	**0**	**5**
Mesalands CC	Farrier	20	14	9	0	1
	Wind Energy Technology	35	35	35	0	0
	Wind	34	32	30	0	2
	Total Unique	**89**	**81**	**74**	**5**	**3**
Santa Fe CC	Culinary Arts	12	8	8	0	4
	Early Childhood Education*	32	29	29	0	3
	Home Health Aide	42	37	37	0	5
	Heating, Ventilation & Air Con	6	0	0	0	4
	Plumbing*	12	2	2	0	9
	Total Unique	**104**	**76**	**76**	**3**	**25**
UNM Valencia	Certified Nursing Assistant	10	9	9	1	0
	Computing for Business Students	10	0	0	0	0
	Early Childhood Multicultural Ed	50	1	1	26	19
	Emergency Medical Services	6	0	0	6	0
	Personal Care Attendant	34	21	21	5	7
	Total Unique	**109**	**31**	**31**	**52**	**26**
Central NM CC	Certified Nursing Assistant	6	3	3	3	0
	Early Childhood Multicultural Ed	143	65	65	52	11
	Electrical Trades	54	20	20	9	12
	Welding Technology	149	23	23	51	22
	Total Unique	**352**	**111**	**111**	**196**	**45**
ENMU-Roswell	Certified Nursing Assistant	35	31	30	0	2
	Emergency Medical Services	39	20	18	0	10
	Pharmacy Technician	42	28	26	0	14
	Total Unique	**116**	**79**	**74**	**11**	**26**
Total Unique		**839**	**442**	**430**	**267**	**130**

Overall to date: 51.3% earned credentials. 52.7% completed programs of study; 31.8% still in process; 15.5% stopped out.

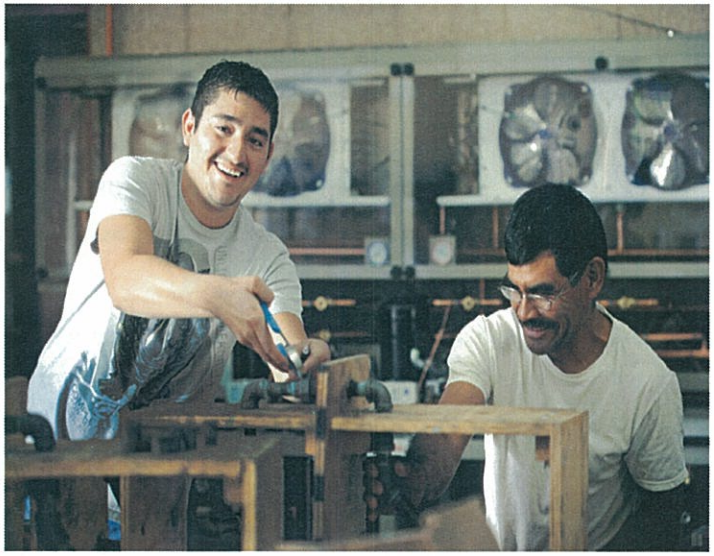
***includes students enrolled in more than one program of study.**

7/16/2014; includes data through Spring '14.

Initial I-BEST Outcomes In New Mexico

Data: In the past 2 years, 328 low-skilled student have completed certificates in high demand career pathways. Data from 2013 showed that 69% of those tested (N=62) demonstrated skill gains. 2014 data is forthcoming.

Achievement: Community Colleges across the state, Department of Workforce Solutions (DWS), and the Higher Education Department are collaborating through the statewide I-BEST Council. The I-BEST consortium is also strengthening its partnership with DWS to assist with the cost of tuition and books for I-BEST participants.



Stories: *"If I didn't understand it the first time, the I-BEST teachers would tell me not to be afraid to come and ask for help. I felt safe and supported which helped me to be persistent and determined."*

SFCC I-BEST Plumbing participant

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A Better Use Of Time And Money

The Old Model

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Time = 4 semesters (2 semesters in ABE + 2 semesters in Developmental Education Math and English)

Cost per student = $2,808

Career Training – Home Health Aide (6 credits)

Time = 1 semester

Cost per student = $1016

Total Time = 5 semesters

Total Cost = $3,824/ student

The I-BEST Model

Adult Basic Education (ABE) + I-BEST Support Services

Time = 1 semester

Cost per student = $959

+

Career Training – Home Health Aide (6 credits)

Time = 1 semester

Cost per student = $1016

Total Time = 1 semester

Total Cost = $1,975/student

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Return On Investment

- We get students in, through, and out quicker.
- We do it for less money and less time.
- Students come out and are employed.
- Students benefit and New Mexico benefits.

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Looking Forward -Sustainability

- The Department of Labor TAACCCT grant ends September 2015. This was designed to be seed money.
- On July 3rd, 2014, Santa Fe Community College will submit a TAACCCT 4 proposal to the Department of Labor. This would allow for expansion of I-BEST from 6 to 11 colleges. It also will focus on the Allied Health, Emergency Medical Services, and Health Information Technology career pathways.
- Possible legislative request in partnership with Department of Workforce Solutions (DWS) and/or Higher Education Department's (HED) Adult Education program.

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TAACCCT 4 Proposal - $15 million request for New Mexico – much more than I-BEST!

Project Title: SUN PATH – Skill Up Network – Pathways to Acceleration in Technology and Healthcare

SUN PATH Goals:

- Increased capacity and systemic improvements in delivery of healthcare career pathways that align with industry needs
- Increased attainment of degrees, certifications, and industry recognized credentials.
- Strategic alignment between education and workforce systems resulting in improved employment outcomes, retention, and average earnings.

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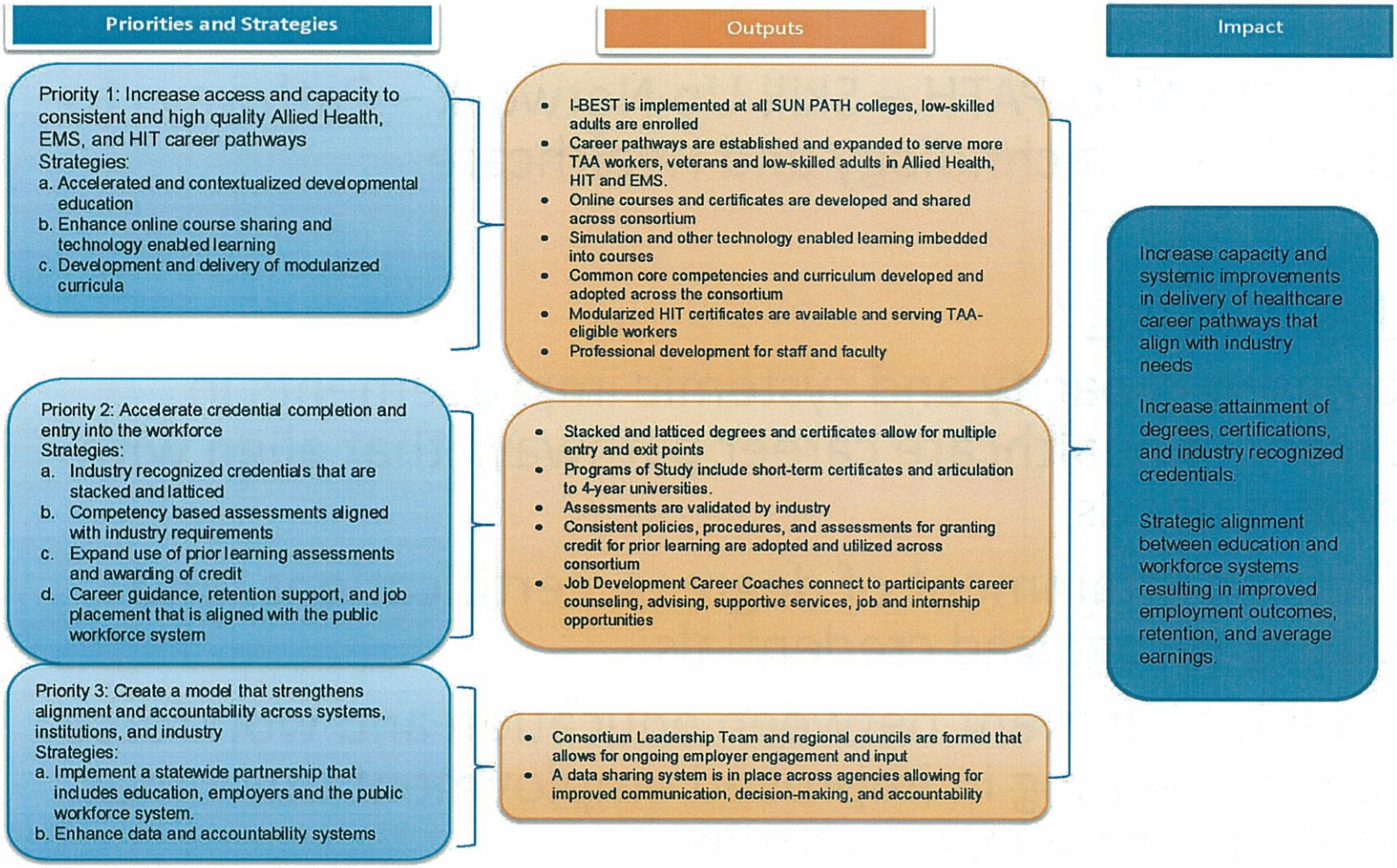
SUN PATH Logic Model