

ELEVATING THE PRACTICE

Linked Learning Professional Development



At the Linked Learning Alliance, we believe in the **power of educators**

Teachers, school and district leaders, and their community partners are amazing problem solvers, especially when they can innovate together. The Alliance is actively cultivating that opportunity with our professional development portfolio. Building on 10+ years of experience, research, and relationships across systems and sectors, the Alliance offers training, tools, and connections to help K–12 educators take practice to the next level.

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE AND LINKED LEARNING

The Linked Learning Alliance is the engine that drives a movement to help every young person determine their own future through a proven approach to education called Linked Learning. The approach integrates rigorous academics with real-world learning and strong support services to prepare students for success in college, career, and life. The Alliance helps create public will for equity and excellence in education, elevate the practice of Linked Learning across America, and advance policies that support and sustain high-quality college and career-based learning for all youth.

Resources For Practitioners

We help educators and their partners discover opportunities to connect and learn throughout their journey to create powerful Linked Learning experiences for students.

Fieldwide Professional Learning

Linked Learning Networks

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Linked Learning Networks bring educators together several times each year over a period of one or two years to advance a shared agenda. Working as a community of practice, participants innovate, scale and improve Linked Learning and its results. They motivate and inspire each other, share ideas and resources, and develop and spotlight tools and solutions to common challenges. The Alliance connects Network participants to the field's top experts and resources, and curates and shares Linked Learning tools, strategies, lessons, stories, and results with the broader field. We encourage teams of educators—district administrators, principals and assistant principals, pathway leads, academic and CTE teachers, counselors, work-based learning coordinators—to participate in networks together. Participants set their agenda, establish goals, and define metrics of success as they learn, grow, and connect.

ALLIANCE NETWORKS

Middle School Network

Alternative Education Network

Counselor Network



Linked Learning Professional Learning Series

MULTI-DAY DEEP-DIVE WORKSHOPS

The Linked Learning Professional Learning Series presents structured, interactive, multi-day workshops that delve deep into proven education practices and systems centered on a belief in the unlimited potential of young people. The series helps participants understand, integrate, and adapt Linked Learning approaches to launch and deliver powerful and relevant learning experiences to their students, whether remote or in person. Available for a reasonable fee, series workshops feature educators, experts, students, and postsecondary and industry partners from across Linked Learning communities. Workshop participants engage in knowledge sharing, candid dialogue, co-creation, and action planning—all grounded in Linked Learning principles and real-world applications.

Experiential Site Visits

HIGH-QUALITY COLLEGE + CAREER PREPARATION IN ACTION

Experiential site visits allow participants to envision a new future for their students, school site, or district. Learn firsthand how the Linked Learning approach has positively transformed education in our partner districts. Hear from site and district administrators, teachers, counselors, students, and industry partners within a district-wide system of college and career pathway implementation as they discuss essential district and pathway structures, master scheduling, integrated curricula, project-based learning, work-based learning, and industry and postsecondary partnerships.

Linked Learning Webinars

POWER HOUR ON TIMELY TOPICS

Linked Learning webinars bring together educators, community leaders, industry partners, and researchers to explore specific timely topics related to Linked Learning policy, practice, and public will building. The Alliance offers Linked Learning webinars throughout the year. Webinars feature leaders with deep expertise in implementing the approach with fidelity and adapting integrated college and career preparation to online and hybrid learning settings. Sessions highlight exemplar strategies, policies, and practices from across the Linked Learning field that can inspire community-wide action in support of young people, their dreams and their aspirations. Linked Learning webinars are typically 60 minutes long, include ample opportunity for engagement, and are free of charge.

EXAMPLE WORKSHOP TOPICS

Linked Learning Fundamentals

Building an Integrated Program of Study

Designing Meaningful Work-Based Learning

Creating an Integrated Student Support System

EXAMPLE WEBINARS

Empowering Youth in Civic Action

Attending to Student Supports and Social and Emotional Learning During COVID-19

Leveraging Your Pathway Advisory Board to Engage Industry Partners

Customized Support

Coaching + Capacity Building

REAL-TIME THOUGHT PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT

Deepen local capacity through ongoing, job-embedded coaching and professional development. The Alliance's coaching and capacity building services cultivate district, site, and pathway leadership to develop the conditions and systems to implement equitable Linked Learning pathways.



Asset Mapping + Implementation Planning

ILLUMINATE LOCAL STRENGTHS AND RESOURCES

The Linked Learning approach should be adapted to each community's context and build on local strengths. To customize their practice in these ways, districts can embark on a process of asset mapping and implementation planning. Asset mapping identifies resources that could be leveraged and aligned to strengthen pathways and results. Informed by insights from the asset mapping exercise, district stakeholders collaborate to create a typically 12-month implementation plan that clarifies goals, priorities, action items, and commitments. The Alliance offers coaching and tools to support both.



Linked Learning Certification

Validation for Quality Pathways

MAINTAINING STANDARDS THAT SERVE STUDENTS

All practice offerings are tied to our quality certification system. Linked Learning Certification is based on a series of standards identified by leaders in the Linked Learning field as crucial for improving student outcomes and preparing all students for college and career. Districts seek certification from the Alliance to validate the quality of their college and career pathways. The process supports self-evaluation, goal setting, and continuous improvement for better and more equitable student outcomes. Pathways gain Silver Certification when they establish the core components of Linked Learning and achieve Gold Certification when they demonstrate high-quality implementation of these components and equitable opportunities for all students.



Let's Talk

To explore opportunities to support Linked Learning and the professionals bringing this approach to life in communities across the country, please contact us.

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What is Linked Learning?

Linked Learning is a **personalized approach** to education that helps each student discover their passions. Young people gain the confidence and support they need to succeed in high school, and to graduate with the coursework and skills that prepare them for success in **college, career, and life**.



THE APPROACH

- Rigorous academics, aligned to admissions requirements for state colleges and universities
- Career technical education courses, delivering concrete knowledge and skills through a carefully structured sequence of courses
- Work-based learning, providing students with exposure to real-world workplaces through job shadowing, apprenticeships, internships, and more
- Comprehensive support services, including counseling and supplemental instruction in reading, writing, and math to address individual needs



THE IMPACT

- Linked Learning students accumulate **more credits by the end of high school**
- Linked Learning students are **less likely to drop out**, and **more likely to graduate** high school
- Linked Learning students are more likely to **complete college prep coursework**
- Linked Learning students with low prior achievement are **more likely to enroll in college directly after high school** than similar peers outside of Linked Learning

Source: [SRI International](#)