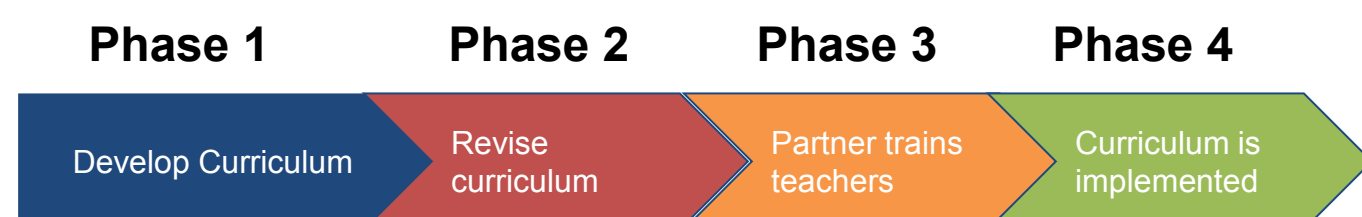


Project Activities

For the Daniel Community Scholars Project, we will help the Onin group to develop lesson plans for their Ready to Work courses that are taught in West Alabama high schools. These lesson plans will be delivered through Onin Group's online technical education learning software, Onin Apps. Onin Apps is an easy-to-use software similar to Blackboard that allows educators to create online courses which include powerpoints, quizzes, and reading materials. Each of the lesson plans in the Ready to Work curriculum will be based off of already-developed curricula created by each of the six distinct Industry "clusters" (groups) prevalent in West Alabama, which include **automotive**, **healthcare**, **construction**, **manufacturing**, **business services**, and **professional services**.

This project occurs in **Four Phases**. However, the Blackburn Institute will only be involved in Phases 1 & 2, after which our community partner will take over and ensure the successful implementation of the Ready to Work curriculum.



In order to complete this project, we will divide the 2018-2019 Blackburn Class into five groups, each of which will be assigned a cluster (automotive, healthcare, construction, business services, and professional services) for which they will help to **create 12 hours of content and lesson plans for the online "Ready to Work" curriculum**. Each group will have at least one DCS Team 6 Member and will be given access to information (powerpoints, documents, videos, text, industry updates, authentic texts) regarding its specific Industry Cluster, provided by the industry leader from West Alabama Works responsible for approving the curriculum. The students will use the materials to create, through the Onin Apps software, lesson plans for one week (12 hours) of instruction. After finishing the first drafts of lesson plans, they will be submitted for feedback to industry leaders on the West Alabama Ready to Work Council. Using this feedback, students will revise curriculum and **submit their final lesson plans by the end of spring semester**.

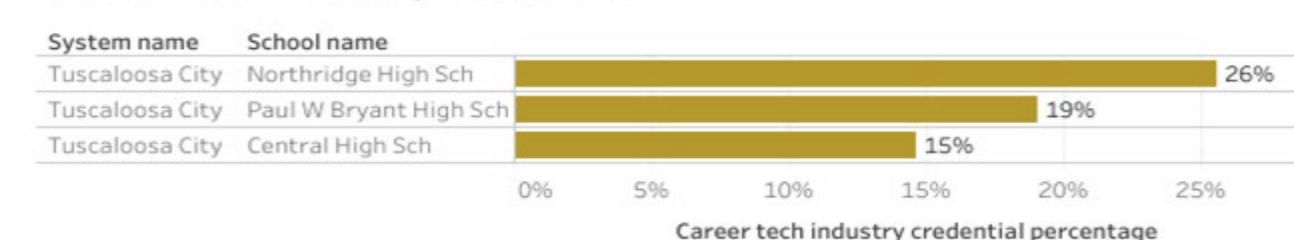
In total, this project will require Blackburn students to commit to (1) an hour-long training session, (2) two hour-long team meetings with our implementation specialists, and (3) the creation of 12 content hours of lesson plans, which is an estimated 25 hours of work, to be divided equitably among the 10 group members. In total, the project should require **only 5 hours of total commitment** from each Blackburn student member, and is **largely self-paced** and adaptable to each student's individual schedule.

Evidence of Need

The American Institute for Research notes that, "College and Career readiness is rapidly supplanting high school graduation as a key priority of the K-12 education system," indicating the importance of college and career readiness to post-graduate success. College and Career readiness may include advanced coursework, work-based learning, and other opportunities that explore interest, aptitudes, and goals so that students may create pathways to employment/education after high school. Implementing a program, dedicated to college and career readiness, that provides students with the proper knowledge and planning course, gives them the understanding and a form of intent to plan toward post-secondary success.

In the state of Alabama, the college and career readiness index indicates that a student has meet at least one of the following conditions: earning a benchmark score in any subject area on the ACT college entrance exam, earning a qualifying score of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam, earning a qualifying score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam, earning college credit while in high school, earning a silver or gold level on the ACT WorkKeys exam, earning a career technical industry credential, or being accepted into the military. Based on these seven indicators, High Schools in Tuscaloosa City Schools do not perform so well. Specifically looking at earning a career technical industry credential, in the graduating class of 2017, Northridge High School scored 26% and both Paul W Bryant High School and Central High School scored less than 20%. Following the college credit indicator, only Central High and Northridge High School had students to receive college credit in the graduating class of 2017, and both schools had less than 20% of their students.

Career Tech Industry Credential



Outcomes

The lesson plans created by our project will be used in high school "Ready to Work" classes across West Alabama, and once completed, provide students with the skills and technical knowledge necessary to begin the pathway towards their career. Completion of the Ready to Work Curriculum awards students an **"Alabama Certified Worker" Certificate** from AIDT as well as an National Career Readiness Certificate from ACT WorkKeys. Additionally, The Onin Group intends to expand these curricula **beyond just K-12 education** to include both adult populations as well as prisoners preparing to re-enter civilian life. For more information about Ready to Work, visit: <http://westalabamaworks.com/readytowork/>



The Long Term Impacts:

- 1) More students across West Alabama will have **better knowledge** about the non-college career options they have.
- 2) More students across West Alabama will have entry-level knowledge about industry that will **prepare them for the workforce** after graduation.
- 3) More students across West Alabama will receive **valuable credentials** while in high school that will help them find meaningful and lucrative work after graduation.
- 4) Local industries will benefit from a "ready" workforce and a highly skilled workforce will **attract more industry** to the region.



Sustainability

This project is unique due to its ease of sustainability. After each group has created the curriculum for its Industry cluster, it will be automatically implemented into the Onin Apps learning system. The curriculum will then be used during Fall 2019 Ready To Work courses all across West Alabama high schools. Looking further into the future, these same curricula will be used for Ready To Work courses for adult GED students and other target groups all across West Alabama and even across the state of Alabama without any additional maintenance by our group. While some minor additions may be added in future years depending on growing industries, the base curriculum for each industry that we have created will be used. **This project, with a timeline of less than one year, will affect and educate hundreds of people across west Alabama by Fall 2019, and then spread in future years, through the work of Onin Group, to the entire state of Alabama.** Its self-sustainability and its visible impact render this project simple and necessary to our community and to our state

Budget

The expenses for our proposed project lie in two main areas: printing costs and supplies for the training and workshop day. Each group would receive a personalized information packet in order to prepare lesson plans for their specific cluster. We anticipate that printing and binding these packets would cost about \$210. This is based on copies being \$0.10/page and binding being \$5.00/packet. We created the estimate based off of each group's packet being 250 pages.

We have also included expenses for highlighters and pens for use during the training and workshop day, as well as snacks and drinks, consisting of variety packs of chips and bottled water.

Bibliography

Powell Crain, Trisha. "Are Alabama's High School Graduates Ready for the next Step?" AL.com, AL.com, 22 July 2018, www.al.com/expo/news/erry-2018/07/5f0bc919842189/are-alabamas-high-school-gradu.html. In-text Citation

Sambolt, Megan, and David Blumenthal. "Promoting College and Career Readiness A Pocket Guide for State and District Leaders." American Institute for Research, Mar. 2013, www.air.org/sites/default/files/downloads/report/CCR_Pocket_Guide_0.pdf. In-text Citation