



Annual Report

PREPARE RHODE ISLAND

IF YOU HAVE THE PASSION,
WE HAVE A PATHWAY

2020
EDITION





Four years ago, Rhode Island launched the PrepareRI initiative to meet our ambitious goal of preparing all Rhode Island students with the skills they need for jobs that pay. We laid out a bold plan to connect what students are learning in the classroom to the skills and opportunities they need to be successful in their careers.

Through our partnership with government, private industry leaders, the public education system, universities, and non-profits across the state, we've created incredible opportunities for Rhode Island students. We know that career education isn't an alternate pathway; it is the pathway that all students need to follow, no matter their passion, strengths, or interests.

All students benefit from career education. Thanks to PrepareRI, all Rhode Island students now have that opportunity.

In the last four years, we have exponentially increased access to career education programs, advanced coursework, early college experiences, and work-based learning opportunities, all with the goal of creating a more skilled workforce and a stronger talent pipeline to fill the needs of Rhode Island's growing economy.

Today, every single student in the state of Rhode Island has access to career education programming in a priority sector. We've opened the doors for students to pursue college credits at no cost to their families by creating the Advanced Course Network and expanding access to dual and concurrent enrollment. We've made Rhode Island a national leader in FAFSA completion to make college more affordable. We've embedded computer science in every school through my CS4RI initiative. We launched an internship program that has attracted the interest of roughly 10 percent of the entire junior class across the state.

Our approach is driven by the needs of our students and families and informed by our industry partners. Every year, the demand continues to grow. We have more work to do to close opportunity gaps and create new experiences for our students, but we've built a strong foundation.

We heard Rhode Islanders loud and clear: high school graduation isn't the finish line. Our students need to graduate prepared for and excited about what comes next, and that is possible only through rigorous hands-on learning opportunities, and access to experiences that allow them to explore their passion.

If you have the passion, we have a pathway. That was our message to Rhode Island students in 2016, and I'm proud to say that we have delivered.

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION FROM GOVERNOR RAIMONDO	11	PREPARE RI INTERNSHIPS
3	PREPARE RI OVERVIEW	12	PREPARE RI 1.0 OUTCOMES
4	IMPORTANT DATES	13	PREPARE RI 2.0 GOALS
5	PROGRAM DETAILS	14	DATA PAGE
6	PATHWAY PROGRESSION	15	XQ+RI CHALLENGE
7	RESUME PAGE	16	GET INVOLVED!
8	READINESS PROJECT		
9	PAYING FOR COLLEGE		
10	REAL SKILLS FOR YOUTH		

WHAT

PrepareRI is an initiative to prepare all Rhode Island youth with the skills they need for jobs that pay

Prepare Rhode Island (PrepareRI) is one of the most ambitious plans in the nation to improve youth career readiness. It represents a strategic partnership between the Rhode Island government, private industry leaders, the public education system, universities, and non-profits across the state. PrepareRI launched in 2017, after Rhode Island was awarded a New Skills for Youth grant from JPMorgan Chase and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

PrepareRI benefits our students, businesses, and economy

For students, PrepareRI aims to close the gap between what they learn in school and what they need for high-demand jobs. The initiative was built on the belief that all young people – regardless of their background or intended career – will need some form of postsecondary credential and work experience to be successful. For businesses, PrepareRI ensures that employers have the workforce they require to thrive in the economy of tomorrow.

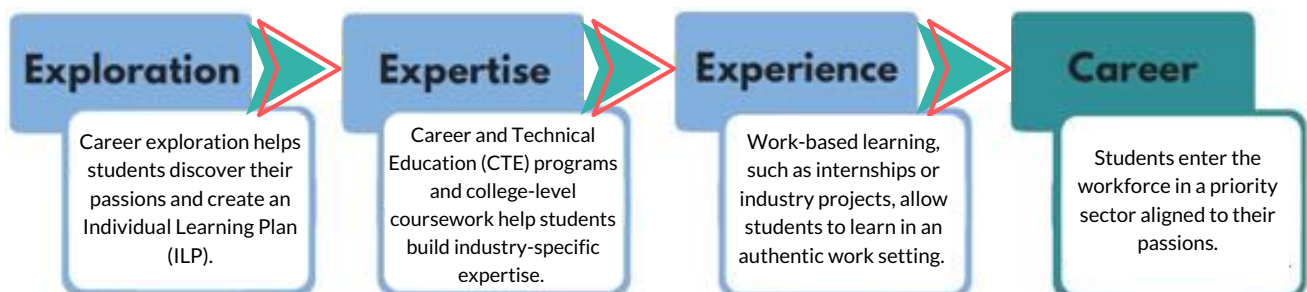
WHY

WHO

PrepareRI unites many partners around a common plan

Our goals cannot be accomplished by any single agency or organization. With that in mind, PrepareRI is run by an inter-agency task force that includes the Rhode Island Governor's Office, the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE), the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB), the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Commerce), the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (OPC) and the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI). This task force partners with Rhode Island's employers and communities so that we can leverage our collective strength to achieve our ambitious goals.

HOW



Save the Date

DECEMBER

Early December to early February:
PrepareRI Internship application period
Dual and concurrent enrollment at URI
and CCRI

MARCH

Dates vary:
Career and Technical Education
program enrollment

OCTOBER

October 1st:
The Free Application for Federal Student
Aid (FAFSA) opens

JANUARY

Mid-January to early February:
Dual and concurrent enrollment at Rhode
Island College

MAY

**Enrollment is on a first-come, first-
served basis:**
Starting in the 2020-2021 school year,
May will be the enrollment month for the
Advanced Course Network



*For more information
and exact deadlines,
go to
www.prepare-ri.org.*

Save the Details

Career Exploration

Career exploration, primarily focused on elementary and middle school students, refers to programming that introduces you to a variety of possible careers.

Advanced Course Network

The Advanced Course Network (ACN) enables students and their families to choose to enroll in an expanded number of free courses while they remain enrolled at their public school.

Computer Science for RI

Computer Science for Rhode Island (CS4RI) is a state initiative to bring high quality computer science (CS) learning experiences to all students.

PrepareRI Youth Apprenticeship Program (PRIYA)

PRIYA students work part-time, take classes that directly relate to their employment experience, and work closely with their employer and CCRI to coordinate the beginning of a career path while still in high school.



Career and Technical Education

CTE programs consist of three or more courses that will help you earn an industry credential and prepare you to enter the workforce.

PrepareRI Internships

Paid internships starting the summer before your senior year with local employers that includes a week-long preparation bootcamp; allows you to earn college credit.

Dual and Concurrent Enrollment

College coursework for students while still in high school at no cost. Dual enrollment courses are offered on campus and concurrent courses are taught at the high school.

Oh, the Places You'll Go!



Grade 6

Start crafting your Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and take advantage of career exploration opportunities



Participate in the Junior Achievement Inspire Career Fair and consider enrolling in a career and technical education (CTE) program for high school or map out the courses you want to take

Grade 8

Challenge yourself with Advanced Placement, Advanced Course Network courses, or dual and concurrent enrollment courses

High School

Consider applying for the PrepareRI Internship Program or the PrepareRI Youth Apprenticeship program

Grade 11



Grade 12

Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and apply to college



College and career possibilities!



What can PrepareRI do for a resume?

Contact

Cranston High School West
Cranston
Rhode Island

Objective

Aspiring to pursue an undergraduate degree in engineering or applied mathematics. A self-motivated student with the ability to problem-solve, analyze data, develop innovative solutions and create new ideas to foster development and design goals.

Education

Cranston High School West

- Pre-Engineering/Robotics

Community College of Rhode Island

- Calculus II

Rhode Island College

- Chemistry II

CTE

College

Credits

Real RI student!



Daniel Marella

Achievements

Highest Honor Roll
2016 - Present

US Presidential Scholar Semi-Finalist
2020

Rensselaer Medal Award
2019

Jae S. Lim Foundation Award for Academic
Excellence in Math and Science
2019

Experience

MIT Lincoln Laboratory

- Selected for a highly competitive two-week summer program at MIT where students delve into radar technology and attain hands-on engineering experience.

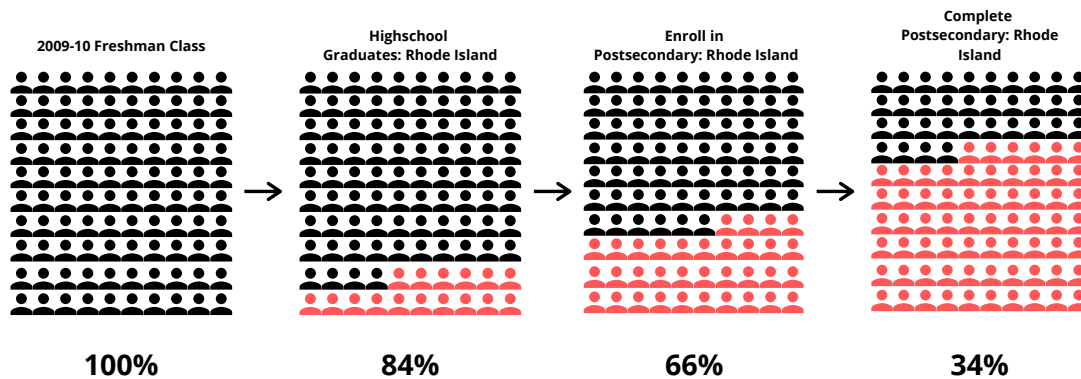
Private Tutor

- Tutor subjects of Geometry, Algebra, Physics, and Chemistry
- Prepared Lessons and Homework help for consistent clientele

Work-Based Learning

Ready, Set, Readiness

The PrepareRI College Readiness project represents a strategic partnership between K-12 education and Rhode Island's colleges to ensure that every student graduates from high school ready to enroll in credit-bearing coursework on a path to on-time college completion. A working group consisting of higher education faculty, K-12 math teachers from across the state, all three public college Provosts, and RIDE content experts have been meeting quarterly to discuss the issue of math remediation.



PrepareRI Readiness Pilot: Looking at data gathered over the course of 10 years, we know that over 70% of students who enrolled in remedial coursework in one of Rhode Island's three public institutions of higher education did not complete their postsecondary degree within 10 years of starting high school in 2009-10.

Do you know the requirements for college ?

RI High School to College Pipeline:

Requirements for High School Graduation
URI/RIC Admissions Requirements

★ = Mismatch



	RI Secondary Diploma Requirements	RIC Undergraduate Freshman applicants	URI First-Year Student Admission Requirements	URI Engineering applicants	URI - Other (Recommended for applicants to Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics, and Pharmacy)
English	4	4	4	4	4
Math	★ 4	3 including Algebra I and II, and Geometry	3 including Algebra I and II, and Geometry	4 including pre-calculus or calculus	4 including pre-calculus or trigonometry
Physical / Natural Science	3	2 lab science	2 >1 lab science	3 physical science classes with labs, including 1 unit of physics, 2 other physical sciences and chemistry	2 >1 lab science
History / Social Science	3	2	2	2	2
World Language	★ None 6 courses to include, but not limited to, world languages, the arts, technology, P.E., and health	2 in same world language	2 in same world language	2 in same world language	2 in same world language
Additional Units		5	5 additional college preparatory units	5 additional college preparatory units	5 additional college preparatory units
Minimum Total	20	18	18	20	19

Get to know your school counselor!

Paying for College

FAFSA Completion Initiative: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the essential first step students must take to get free grants, scholarships, and financial aid for college. Yet, every year, qualified Rhode Island high school graduates leave financial aid dollars on the table that could have helped them attend college.

Completing the FAFSA

UNLOCKS MONEY THAT SHOULD BE YOURS!



In the 2018/19 FAFSA cycle, Rhode Island ranked 6th in the country for the number of high school seniors completing the form, yet **an estimated \$5.9 million** in Pell Grants were left on the table.

Other Ways To Pay For College

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Work-study Programs
- Loans

for everyone



FAFSA Dashboard

FAFSA Dashboard: School-Level Completion: This Dashboard shows how many students are completing the FAFSA in each Rhode Island high school so we can track our progress.

for students, families & schools



FAFSA Portal

FAFSA Portal: Student-Level Completion: This portal will allow qualified administrators and staff to access student-level completion data online.

for administrators & counselors



FAFSA Toolkit

FAFSA Toolkit: This toolkit includes information and helpful resources for schools, families, and students.

Tools

For more information visit: www.prepare-ri.org/fafsa



Real Skills For Youth

Real Skills for Youth Program: Real Skills for Youth programs often provide youth with their first exposure to the world of work, whether through a paid work experience, hands-on exposure to new careers, or learning and practicing essential skills.



List of Program Provider lead organizations from 2019-2020, summer and year-round:

- AS220
- Blackstone Valley Community Action Program
- Center for Dynamic Learning
- City of Providence- Office of Economic Opportunity
- Comprehensive Community Action Program
- Connecting for Children and Families
- Downcity Design
- East Bay Community Action Program
- Inspiring Minds
- Sheila C. Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
- RI Nurses Institute Middle College Charter High School
- Skills for Rhode Island's Future
- Southside Community Land Trust
- Tri-County Community Action Agency
- Young Voices
- Youthbuild Preparatory Academy- Providence



Key Stats:

- 1,642 youth participants enrolled in summer and year-round programming
- Students represented from over 60 schools across the state
- Over 93% of participants earning wages/stipends
- 74 employer sites
- 95% students completed
- 63,632 hours worked
- Representation from over 50 schools across the state of RI



PrepareRI Internships

Prepare RI internships benefit both students and industry. For students, the internships prepare youth with the skill they need to pursue meaningful, fulfilling futures through professional skills training, on-the-job experience, and connections to adult mentors who can help them achieve their career goals. For employers, the internships help diversify their workforce and build a strong pipeline of young, skilled workers who can keep Rhode Island's future economy vibrant and strong.

Summer 2020 is anticipated to have 400 rising seniors placed in internships across the state, nearly triple the number of slots since its launch in 2018. The program is funded by the RI Governor's Workforce Board and recently received a commitment of \$1.5 million over the span of 3 years from American Student Assistance. The Prepare RI Internship Program is managed by Skills for RI's Future.

Key Stats
for Prepare RI Internship Program Summer 2019:

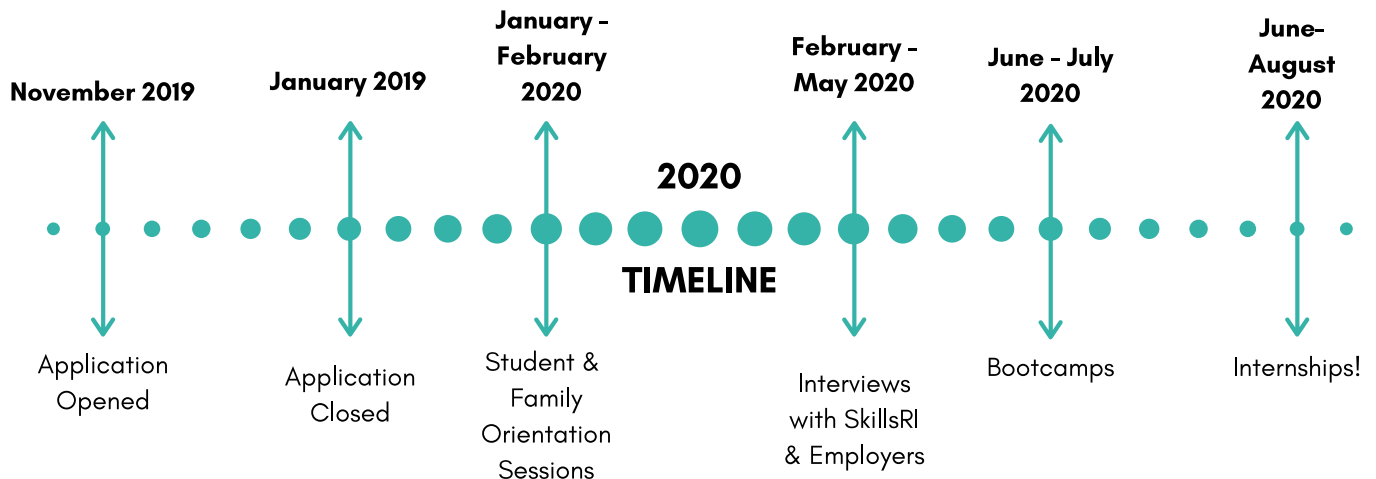
326 students placed earning over **\$730,000** in **direct student benefits**

Am I Eligible?

- Current juniors in high school, going into their senior year
- Public school students
- 16 years old
- Eligible to work in the U.S.

Student Quote:
This experience[...]taught me a lot about who I am and what it takes to be a professional.

Employer Quote:
Amazing class this year. I am always hearing great things from supervisors and I recommend it to everyone.



HOW'D WE DO?



PrepareRI represents a strategic partnership between the Rhode Island government, private industry leaders, the public education system, universities, and non-profits across the state. In 2017 we set 8 goals centered around 8 different focus areas, all with the purpose of preparing all Rhode Island youth with the skills they need for jobs that pay. Check out how we did below!

FOCUS AREAS	BASELINE DATA (2017)	GOALS FOR 2020	PREAPARE RI 1.0 OUTCOMES
1. Employer engagement	74% (97 out of 131) of CTE programs were in Priority Sectors in AY14-15.	All career pathway programs will be aligned to Rhode Island's high-demand career fields	77% (171 out of 223) of CTE programs are in Priority Sectors in AY19-20.
2. Industry credentials & college credit	15% of students earned college credit and/or an industry credential in AY14-15.	Over half of all high school students will graduate with college credit or an industry credential	25% of students earned college credit and/or an industry credential in AY18-19.
3. Work-based learning	Programs run by the local workforce boards, summer youth employment only (549 in 2015).	All high school students will have access to work-based learning at their school.	1,600 youth participated in summer & year-round work-based learning through statewide PrepareRI internships or Real Skills for Youth programs.
4. Career & Technical Education (CTE)	10% of all high school students participated in a CTE program in AY15-16.	Half of high school students will participate in a CTE program	25% of high school students participated in a CTE program in AY18-19.
5. Counseling & career exploration	Less than 1% - 5 high schools (mainly using ILP Provider for college)	All students (grades 6-12) will have individual learning plans (ILPs), informed by students' experiences in career exploration programming	85% of LEAs (53 out of 62) have adopted an ILP Provider and are implementing ILPs in AY19-20 (student data coming in Summer 2020).
6. Outcome-focused accountability	Former accountability system only had math and reading proficiency scores.	Agencies will use data on students' college and career readiness	RIDE rolled out a data transparency site, developed a new accountability system, and launched CTE program-level report cards in AY18-19.
7. Aligned funding	Each agency set their own priorities and aligned funding to them.	Align funding streams around a common strategy for building career pathway programs for all students.	GWB, RIDE, and outside funding all contributing to PrepareRI; Perkins V changing funding structures for CTE programs in AY20-21.
8. Outreach & professional learning	We were not doing something similar to this kind of work.	All schools in the state will participate in PrepareRI professional learning	85% of high schools statewide (53 out of 62) attended a PrepareRI Summit for professional development in AY18-19.

84% increase in the number of LEAs using ILPs

Summer youth employment doubled!

85% of RI High Schools attended our Summits!

15% increase in CTE participation

In ten years...I'll be happy, wealthy and successful.



Victor
PrepareRI Summer Intern

PREPARE RI 2.0 GOALS

	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	POST-SECONDARY	NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS
ACADEMIC	Middle School students who are proficient in English Language Arts and Math	High School students who are proficient in English Language Arts and Math	Student are on track to graduate in four years	Youth who are proficient in English Language Arts and Math
CAREER KNOWLEDGE AND APPLIED SKILLS	Middle School students who have a plan for their future	High School students who graduate with a diploma+	Students are on a guided plan, academic or technical	Youth who have a plan for their future
EMPLOYABILITY	Middle School students with career knowledge	High School students who graduate with Work-Based Learning experience	A highly skilled working population	Youth who have Work-Based Learning experience and industry credential

In ten years...a goal for myself is to be back working at Hasbro.



Alaynah
PrepareRI Summer Intern at Hasbro

In ten years...I'll go for a PhD...undergrad, I am thinking about studying linguistics.



Austin
Took 6 language courses through Dual Enrollment

326

students placed earning over **\$730,000** in direct student benefits

50%

increase in students placed over 2016 cohort



Numbers tell a story

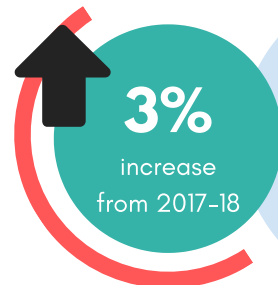
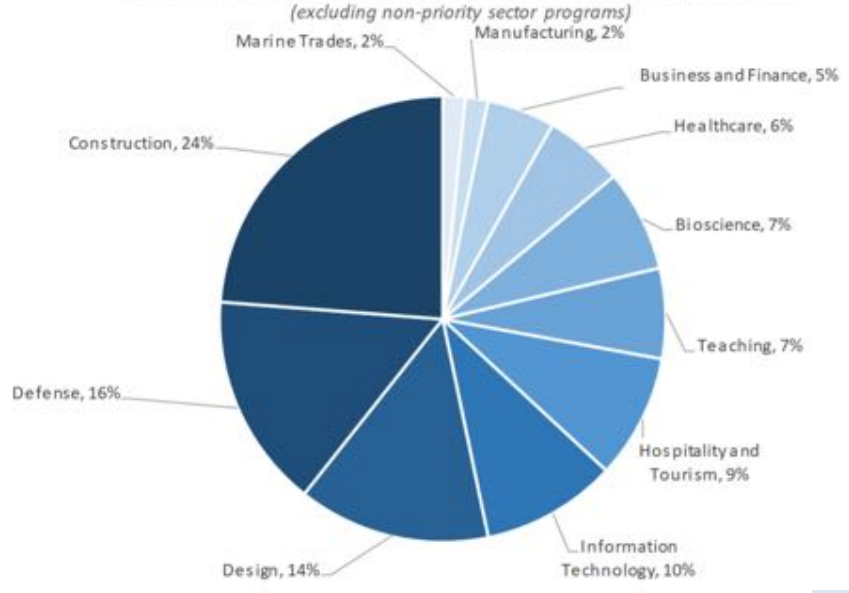
In ten years...I see myself working in research and development in a pharmaceutical company



Mackenzie
Senior at Davies Career and Tech HS
Biomanufacturing

Priority Sectors

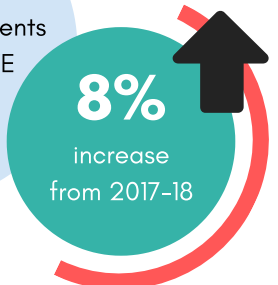
Percent of CTE Programs in Each Priority Sector, 2018-19
(excluding non-priority sector programs)



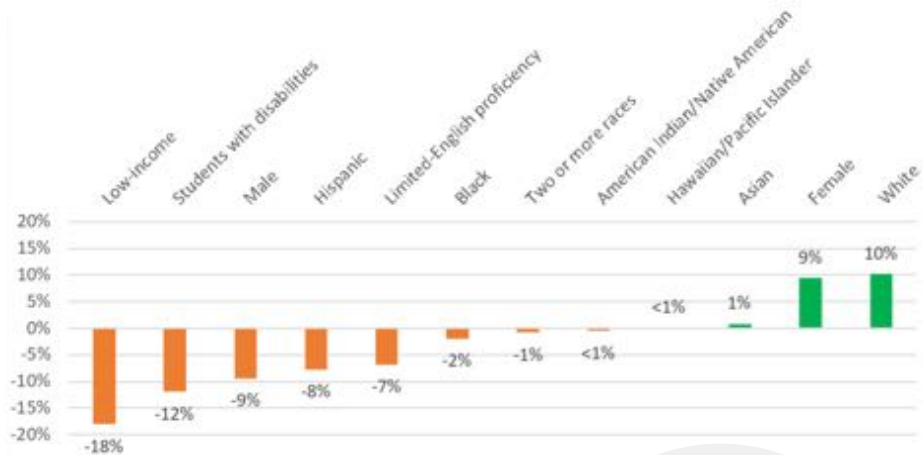
60%
CTE participants took two or more CTE courses

Post-secondary credits

33%
High school students enrolled in CTE statewide



College Credit Gap by Student Subgroup, 2016 9th Grade Cohort



Footnote
The 2015-16 9th grade cohort is any student in RI who started high school in 2015-16 and is on track to graduate by June 2020

29%
of the 2016 9th grade cohort earned credit from a public university in R.I.



RETHINKING HIGH SCHOOLS STATE-WIDE

XQ+RI is a unique partnership between XQ and the state of Rhode Island.



The XQ+RI Challenge invited all 64 public high school communities across the state to rethink high school in order to expand educational equity and prepare today's students for tomorrow's world. The challenge was designed with community, equity, and innovation at the core to authentically engage educators, families, and students in this transformative high school redesign process. Of the 32 high school teams who submitted initial proposals, 20 received planning grants in June of 2019 and then began an intensive, seven-month design process to submit school designs.

Following a rigorous selection process, Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts (TAPA) and Ponaganset High School were named as XQ schools, 360 High School and Woonsocket High School were recognized with XQ Accelerator Awards, and 16 additional schools were recognized with XQ Momentum Awards in March 2020.

Share the news



Follow us on social media

@Prepare_RI

Facebook.com/PrepareRhodeIsland



Join the conversation

Post using #PrepareRI

Encourage others to sign up for opportunities!

and get involved

Students & Families:

Visit Prepare-RI.org/students

In middle school:

- Make sure you have an updated ILP that is connected to your interests
- Attend the JA Inspire Career Fair

In high school:

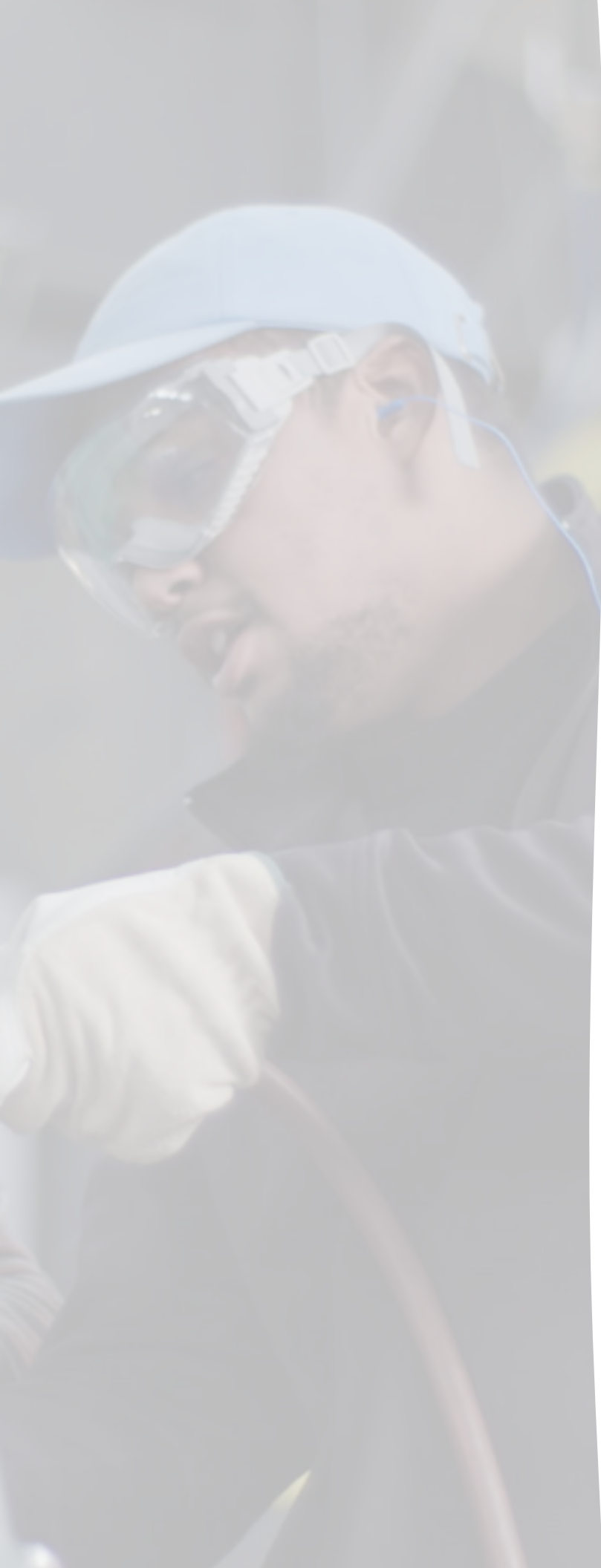
- Sign up for the Advanced Course Network at www.ricoursechoice.org
- Look into CTE programs statewide
- Apply for the PrepareRI Internship
- Fill out the FAFSA

Industry Partners:

Visit Prepare-RI.org/businesses

- Host workplace visits or volunteer to speak to a class
- Offer mentors from your company for CTE programs in your area
- Participate in the PrepareRI Internship or PrepareRI Youth Apprenticeship

Have questions? Email info@prepare-ri.org



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