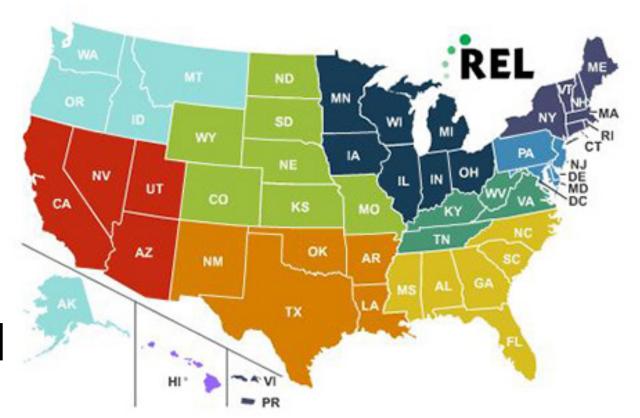


# REL Appalachia: Strengthening the Transition From High School to College and Careers in Virginia

Independent, Unbiased Research Support for Your State's Education Priorities

# The Regional Educational Laboratory Program

The 10 Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) work in partnership to carry out applied research and



training with a mission of supporting a more evidence-based education system.

### REL Appalachia Partnerships

REL Appalachia partners with education stakeholders in the region to develop high-quality research and to use and disseminate the findings to improve student outcomes.

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# Achieving Outcomes Through Three Activities

#### Training, coaching, and technical support

- Application of research and evaluation results
- Research-based interventions and instructional approaches
- Evidence reviews
- Reference desk via Ask A REL

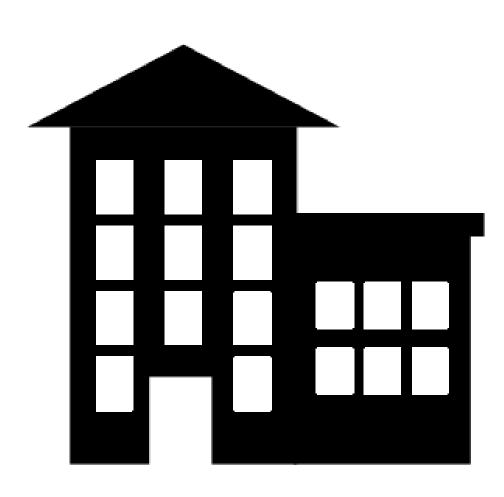
#### Dissemination

- Webinars and in-person workshops
- Newsletters, social media, infographics, short videos, blog posts

### Rigorous applied research

- Descriptive and impact studies
- Correlational analyses
- Analytic methods
- Quick-turnaround research

# Connecting Rural Students in Southwest Virginia With Programs That Facilitate Career Success

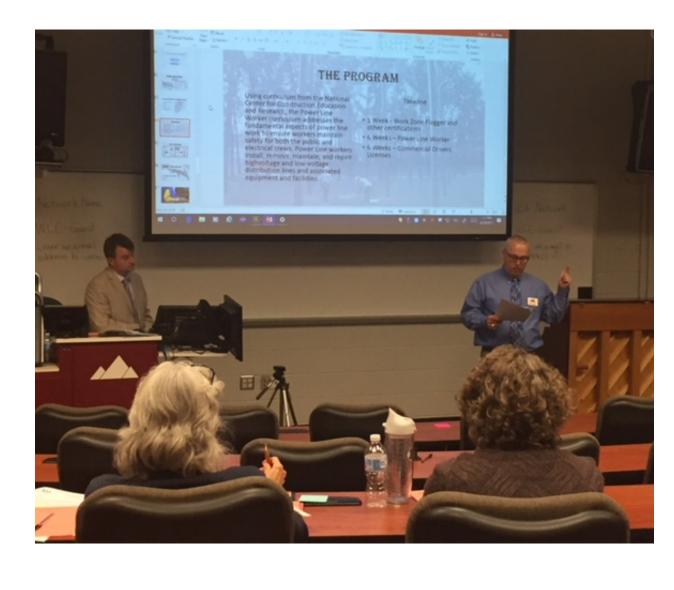


## Many thanks to our community college hosts!

- Mountain Empire Community College
- Southwest Virginia Community College
- Wytheville Community College



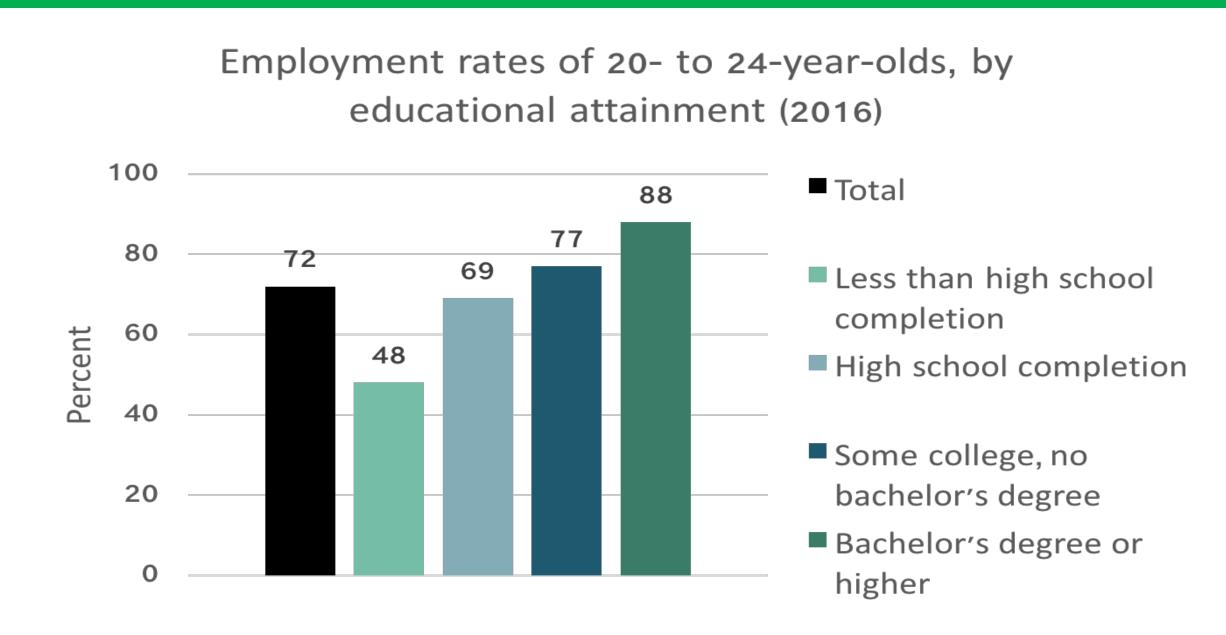
Participants at Mountain Empire Community College discuss in small groups the K–12 coursework and postsecondary programs they would recommend for realistic student scenarios.

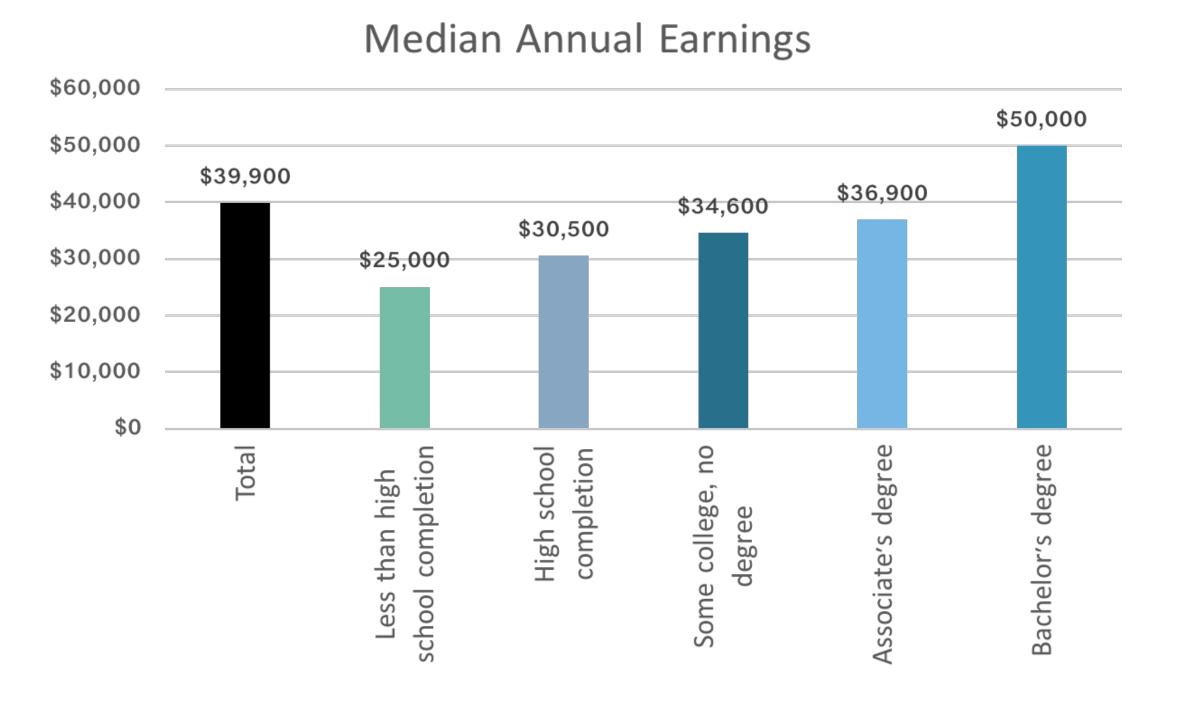


Perry Hughes,
vice president of
Workforce
Development at
Wytheville
Community
College, presents
an overview of
the Powerline
Worker program.

On October 24, 2017, REL Appalachia facilitated an interactive and engaging multisite event to increase secondary educators' awareness of the benefits of postsecondary education and training, the primary barriers to access, and the opportunities in southwest Virginia. The event also enabled secondary educators to network and connect with local postsecondary academic and support programs.

### Benefits of postsecondary education: What do the data show?

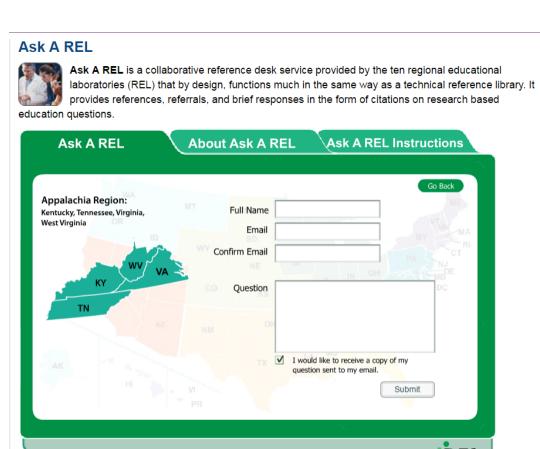




Source: McFarland, J., Hussar, B., de Brey, C., Snyder, T., Wang, X., Wilkinson-Flicker, S., Gebrekristos, S., Zhang, J., Rathbun, A., Barmer, A., Bullock Mann, F., & Hinz, S (2017). The Condition of Education 2017 (NCES 2017- 144). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved from https://nces.ed.gov/pubsegreh/pubsinfo.gsp?pubid=2017144

### REL Support Is a Click Away!

Ask A REL is a reference desk that provides references, referrals, and brief responses to questions about available education research.



Requests for Evidence Reviews help stakeholders understand the quality of evidence in existing studies to inform decisions, consistent with the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Contact **RELAppalachia@sri.com** or visit our website to submit Ask A REL or evidence review requests.

#### Stay updated on our work in the region

- Follow us on Twitter @REL\_Appalachia
- Subscribe to our newsletter: http://tinyurl.com/REL-AP
- Visit our website:
   https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/appalachia/index.asp

### REL Appalachia Leadership



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