

## Employability Skills Partnership (ESP)

Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest is partnering with Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) and the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) to support high-quality career pathways for high school students in Indiana. The partnership is focused on expanding work-based learning (WBL) opportunities for students in career and technical education (CTE). To achieve this goal, REL Midwest staff are working with IPS to understand student and staff perceptions of WBL and barriers to participation, how WBL systems operate, what actions can be taken to strengthen those systems, and how WBL information can best be provided to students and families. At the state level, REL Midwest staff are working to produce cross-walks that align programs of study to in-demand occupations and aggregating state data sources to visually display students concentrating in CTE career pathways as well as aligned employers and postsecondary opportunities to support increasing connections for WBL and CTE career pathway decision-making.

