

## Online Course Description

### **Pathways Leadership Essentials**

*Education Leadership Directed at Career Connected Learning for All*

Offered by the National Center for College and Career Transitions

Beginning Week of April 12, 2021

Course Name	This course is titled "Pathways Leadership Essentials".
Course Description	This course, delivered through eight sessions of live virtual instruction and group discussions, supplemented by online learning modules, is designed to help school and district leaders understand and deliver Career Connected Learning to all their students through the components of a Pathways System. Specifically, this course will help K-12 school and district leaders better understand the implications of workforce trends for education, learn how to implement a profile of Career and Life Ready learner, create robust, high-quality career pathway programs, strengthen employer and community partnerships to support career education, strengthen teacher collaboration and teaching excellence, and enhance collaboration with postsecondary education and systems of workforce development and economic development.
Written Materials	Each participant will have a copy of the <i>Pathways System Decision Guide</i> mailed to them at the mailing address they provide.
Course Hours and Certification for Professional Credit	NC3T will provide a Certificate of Completion to each participant who has completed all the requirements of the course. The Certificate of Completion indicates that the learner has engaged in 18 hours of professional learning.  Participation includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participation in and/or watching each of the 8 workshops. (90 minutes each, total 12 hours)</li><li>• Completing the required reading for each module (30 minutes each, total 4 hours)</li><li>• Completing a short multiple-choice assessment for each module (5 minutes each, total 40 minutes)</li><li>• Posting a 3-paragraph reflection about each module (10 minutes each, total 80 minutes)</li></ul>

Background	<p>Career Connected Learning is an approach to education aimed at developing Career and Life Readiness by bringing career-related content and career-mindedness into the student learning experience.</p> <p>The Pathways System Framework is a model for organizing the work of schools and school systems that delivers robust Career Connected Learning for all students.</p> <p>Career Connected Learning enfold a broad set of learning strategies inside the classroom and outside the school building. CCL arms students with the skills, concepts, and understandings they need to position themselves for success beyond high school, including in postsecondary education, careers, and life. Preparing all students requires educators to engage them by providing career knowledge, and meaningful career-related experiences with employer and community partners in, whenever possible, real employer- and community-based settings.</p> <p>Career-connected learning already exists in most schools to a limited degree. However, utilizing the Pathways System Framework provides the structure to deliver career-connected learning strategies at a large scale to reach all students. The pathways System Framework represents a significant improvement over from traditional models of education that separates college preparation for most students from career readiness for a few students.</p> <p>School leaders who embrace career-connected learning through the Pathways System Framework must be prepared to make the case to multiple stakeholders to build support for this approach and embrace strategies that significantly expand CCL strategies to reach many more students.</p> <p>This course strengthens the capacity of education leaders, teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders to lead this work with confidence and professionalism.</p>
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Learner Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the relationship of workforce and economic trends to student Career &amp; Life Readiness.</li> <li>2. Examine and evaluate the application of the Career and Life Readiness Framework for your school/school district or community.</li> <li>3. Identify and implement high-quality Career Pathway Programs of Study.</li> <li>4. Develop plans to strengthen employer and community partnerships to support career connected learning.</li> <li>5. Learn how to implement Career Connected Learning throughout an entire school and school system, in a way that engages teachers of core academic subjects, the arts, athletics, and career and technical education.</li> <li>6. Strengthen teacher collaboration and expand excellence in teaching.</li> <li>7. Identify resources available from workforce and economic development partners and apply them to career connected learning decisions and programs.</li> <li>8. Improve communication and cooperation among leaders in STEM education programs, career technical education programs, and other related pathway programs.</li> <li>9. Apply effective communication and leadership strategies to implement career-connected learning across schools, the district, local colleges, and the community.</li> </ol>
Guiding Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why do our schools need to embrace Career Connected Learning for all students, instead of the traditional college or career preparation approach?</li> <li>2. How can education leaders embed career and life readiness expectations across the school curriculum?</li> <li>3. How do the components of the Pathways System Framework make it more likely that students will be career and life ready upon graduation?</li> <li>4. How can education leaders develop relationships with business, industry, and community partners to enhance student career and life readiness?</li> <li>5. What are the key leadership and communication strategies that will help leaders more effectively implement Career Connected Learning for all students?</li> </ol>
Course Modules	<p>Each module corresponds with one week of the 8-session course.</p> <p>Module 1: Communicating the Why and the How for Pathways</p> <p>Module 2: Creating the Profile of a Career and Life Ready Learner</p> <p>Module 3: Embedding Career Development Across Your Systems</p> <p>Module 4: Designing Your Career Pathways Structure</p> <p>Module 5: Designing and Upgrading Your Pathway Programs</p> <p>Module 6: Engaging Employers and Community Organizations as Full Partners</p> <p>Module 7: Creating Your Pathways Implementation Plan</p> <p>Module 8: Strengthening Your Leadership Capacity</p>

Each class week begins on Monday morning and concludes the following Sunday night.

**Week 1. Monday April 12 – Sunday April 18, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday April 13, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 2. Monday April 19 – Sunday April 25, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion
- Tuesday April 20, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 3. Monday April 26 – Sunday May 2, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday April 27, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 4. Monday May 3 – Sunday May 9, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday May 4, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 5. Monday May 10 – Sunday May 16, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday May 11, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 6. Monday May 17 – Sunday May 23, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday May 18, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 7. Monday May 24 – Sunday May 30, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday May 25, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Week 8. Monday May 31 – Sunday June 6, 2021**

- Live Lecture and Discussion.
- Tuesday June 1, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

**Commencement Session**

- Live Discussion and Recognition.
- Tuesday June 8, 1-3 pm

Student Participation Expectations	<p>Students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in the live workshop session or watch the recording of the session.</li> <li>• Read the weekly readings.</li> <li>• Post one reflection to the instructor’s prompt by the of each week.</li> </ul>
OPTIONAL: Job-Embedded Assignments	<p>Within the course, there are four Job Embedded Assignments: (Details for each assignment are explained in the weekly modules.)</p> <p>Module 4: Document evidence of five (5) Career- Connected Learning Strategies/Activities already underway in the learner’s school, district, or community.</p> <p>Module 5: Select one option:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Interview an administrator from a local career technology center.</li> <li>2) Interview a CTE dean or administrator from a local college.</li> <li>3) Shadow and interview a CTC student.</li> </ol> <p>Module 7: Develop a 1-minute “Elevator Pitch” (short marketing-style statement) that supports your vision of Career-Connected Learning.</p> <p>Module 8: Capstone Project: Develop a 15-minute professional development presentation related to Career-Connected Learning information learned in this course.</p>
Course Textbook and Readings	<p>The course resource is “Pathways System Decision Guide” by Hans K. Meeder.</p> <p>Students will be directed to read excerpts from the book throughout the course.</p> <p>The course will also make available an extensive set of links to supplemental readings.</p>
Cost and Registration	<p>The cost of the course is \$495. Students can register through NC3T’s online bookstore, located at <a href="https://nc3t.com/store/">https://nc3t.com/store/</a>. This cost includes a copy of the <i>Pathways System Decision Guide</i> publication and will be shipped to the address you provide.</p> <p>For a school or organization that wants to enroll three or more students, the per student price is \$395 and as you add three or more to your cart, the price will be discounted automatically.</p> <p>If a school district needs to pay by purchase order or check, they can add the course to their cart from our bookstore and checkout. Under the “Choose Payment Method” on the checkout page, they can select the “Check” or “Purchase Order” radio button and follow the directives to complete the order. If you have any questions, please contact <a href="mailto:Kandice@nc3t.com">Kandice@nc3t.com</a>.</p>
Authorship and Copyright	<p>Pathways Leadership Essentials © 2021, Hans Meeder and the National Center for College and Career Transitions</p>



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### Biography

Hans Meeder is co-founder and President of the National Center for College and Career Transitions (NC3T). The National Center for College and Career Transitions is a mission-driven organization that provides coaching, technical assistance, and technology platforms so every student has the opportunity to participate in Career Connected Learning. Mr. Meeder and his organization, NC3T, have provided consulting, technical assistance, and professional development in over 30 states and the District of Columbia.

Mr. Meeder is the author of several books and online courses, including *The Power and Promise of Pathways*, the *Pathways System Design Suite*, the *STEM Leader Guide*, and *Career Connected Learning 101*.

Mr. Meeder has an extensive and varied career in education and workforce policy and government leadership, with an emphasis on high school redesign, career and technical education, and workforce quality. Prior to founding NC3T, Meeder served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education. In this role, Meeder led the Department of Education's High School Initiative and guided policy development for implementation of the Perkins Act and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.

Mr. Meeder served as Senior Vice President for Workforce Development and Postsecondary Learning at the National Alliance of Business and as Executive Director of the 21st Century Workforce Commission, a Presidential Commission that made policy recommendations relating to the Information Technology workforce. Mr. Meeder also worked as Education Policy and Outreach Director for the House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. Meeder lives in Columbia, Maryland with his wife and is the parent of four grown children. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland College Park and also holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Maryland's Global Campus.