Counselors SPEAK: Connecting Carefully, Candidly and Courageously

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OSDE Student Support Panel

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Why Are We Here?

To provide Oklahoma Counselors a forum to:

• **S**hare thoughts and concerns in a safe space
• **P**rocess possible causes and solutions
• **E**ducate, equip, and empower one another
• **A**ct, plan and implement
• **K**eep the conversation going
What’s the Conversation?

The Importance of Supporting Student's Soft Skills Development for Post-Secondary and Workforce Success
Interactive Activity

Before we get started, visit: MENTI.COM AND ENTER CODE: 834071
or use the QR code on mobile
Oklahoma’s Workforce Skills Gap

![Skills Gap for New Jobs by 2028](image)

Source: OK Office of Workforce Development EMSI, 2018.2
College & Career Readiness ensures all students have the opportunity and support to successfully secure a post-secondary degree or industry certification that reflects each student’s passions and skills.
Why Are Soft Skills Important?

Not feeling prepared for work

When thinking about new hires, more than

1 IN 3 EMPLOYERS feel that school has not adequately prepared them

1 IN 3 STUDENTS feel that school is not adequately preparing them for work

Basic ICAP Requirement

Students must complete and record at least one service or work-based learning activity between 9th grade and graduation.

(70 O.S. § 1210.508-4)
## Post-Secondary & Workforce Readiness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Awareness (Elementary)</th>
<th>Career Exploration (Middle School)</th>
<th>Career Preparation (High School)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are students interests, soft skills and strengths?</td>
<td>How can career exploration increase soft skills?</td>
<td>How are soft skills aligned to workforce and post-secondary attainment?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For More Information:
- [Sample ICAP Activities](#)
- [Sample Service or Work-Based Learning Activities](#)
School counselors work every day towards one core goal: student success.
Post-Secondary & Workforce Readiness - 2

**Hard Skills**
Teachable abilities or skill sets that are easy to quantify.

- Proficiency in a foreign language
- A degree or certificate
- Typing speed
- Machine operation
- Computer programming

**Soft Skills**
Also known as "people skills" or "interpersonal skills."

- Communication
- Flexibility
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Time Management
Develop Students’ Mindsets & Behaviors

- Leadership
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Problem Solving
- Social & Emotional Intelligence
- Cultural Competence
Soft Skills Resources

(Grades 9-12):

✔ Soft skills curriculum
✔ Hands on activities
✔ Soft skills video series

For more information:
https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills/
Recorded Sessions

✔ A Crash Course on Student Engagement and Teaching 21st Century Skills (Levi Patrick)

✔ ICAP: Service vs. Work-Based Learning (Chelsea Hunt)

OSDE YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9t9YLscAVJe6xVtZlE-Ktg/videos
Online Module: Work-Based Learning

- Getting Started
- Exercises & Other Learning Activities
- Virtual Career Profiles
- Virtual Career Opportunities
- Next Steps
Online Module: Work-Based Learning - 2

To Join Module:

- **Step 1:** Make a profile
  
  [https://osdeconnect.ok.gov/login/](https://osdeconnect.ok.gov/login/)

- **Step 2:** Choose the “Add” button
  
  Work-Based Learning

- **Step 3:** Use Redemption Code:
  
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