



**RICHARD M.
FAIRBANKS
FOUNDATION**

Supporting *Your Next Step*

Presented by:

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Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation

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About the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation

- The Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation strives to advance the vitality of Indianapolis and the well-being of its people by addressing the city's most significant challenges and opportunities.
- The Foundation is focused on five issue-areas across three focus areas:
 - Education**
 - improving academic outcomes for Indianapolis students
 - minimizing underemployment and the workforce skills gap in Indianapolis
 - Health**
 - reducing tobacco use and eliminating youth nicotine use
 - preventing and addressing substance use disorder
 - Vitality of Indianapolis**
 - supporting key economic drivers of the city
- Three-pronged approach: grantmaking, research and evaluation, convenings and collaborations. Learn more at www.rmff.org.



Laying the Groundwork for *Your Next Step* – 1 of 2

Since 2016, the Foundation's grantmaking has laid the groundwork for the *Your Next Step* campaign.

- \$312k in grant funding to National Conference of State Legislatures Foundation.
- Convenings with Indiana education and workforce development stakeholders to share findings from an international benchmarking study, outlined in a report called No Time to Lose: How to Build a World-Class Education System State by State.
- One key element of education and training systems in top-performing OECD countries is an intellectually rigorous career and technical education system with multiple “on” and “off” ramps for students and adults – starting in high school.



Laying the Groundwork for *Your Next Step* – 2 of 2

\$990k in grant funding to Central Indiana Corporate Partnership Foundation to:

- Conduct a feasibility study to determine whether RAMP (Rapid Reemployment for Advanced Manufacturing Positions), a program designed for Subaru, could be modified and scaled to serve a broad swath of manufacturers statewide; this became Conexus' Catapult program.
- Conduct a CTE funding sources and uses and governance structure analysis;
- Develop a comprehensive statewide communications strategy regarding the value of postsecondary education and training.
 - Surveys and focus groups found low levels of awareness among Hoosiers of existing education and training programs and services.



Our Support for *Your Next Step*

- May 2020: \$295,500 grant to the Governor's Workforce Cabinet to help support overall campaign development, as well as the implementation of a Marion County pilot.
- If the pilot succeeds, the Cabinet will work to identify sustainable resources for statewide implementation.
- *Your Next Step* is also closely aligned with the Foundation's November 2019 grants to support the development of a statewide Modern Youth Apprenticeship system and to support Ivy Tech's Career Coaching and Employer Connections initiative.



- “No Time to Lose” report from NCSL:
<https://www.ncsl.org/research/education/no-time-to-lose-how-to-build-a-world-class-education-system-state-by-state.aspx>
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