

How Education Meets Workforce in RobCo

8th	<p>YouScience Assessment</p> <p>The YouScience assessment profile uses engaging exercises (or 'brain games') to deliver real data about students' aptitudes or natural abilities, which set around age 14 and remain stable throughout their lifetime.</p>	
8th	<p>Career Exploration Fair where YouScience data is used to place students with industry specific professionals based on the test results.</p>	
8th	<p>Prior to entering 9th grade, students select a program of study in academics or career and technical education. With the data from YouScience and their takeaway from the career exploration fair, they have information that will help them make their decision.</p>	
9th	<p>Students enrolled in entry level CTE (Career and Technical Education) classes study careers in their selected field. Students also learn about opportunities for Work Based Learning, Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment related to the program selected.</p>	
10th	<p>Retake YouScience Assessment to compare data to 2 years earlier and ensure student is on the right track</p>	
11th	<p>Job Shadowing</p> <p>This is offered to every Junior in Robertson County. Students are surveyed for their top 3 career choices and required to fill out an application to apply for the opportunity to job shadow. The Chamber spends hundreds of hours to find each student an opportunity in their top choice. Students spend the day immersed in what that field looks like.</p>	
12th	<p>High School Senior Job Fair</p> <p>This job fair is hosted strictly for graduating Seniors who have been identified as entering the workforce directly after graduating. Participants show up dressed for success with resumes in hand to learn about a wide variety of employers hiring immediately. They are often interviewed on the spot and many leave with multiple offers.</p>	

GOALS	1 Become A Designated Work Ready Community	2 Work Ready Graduate Program	3 Industry Specific Internships	4 Celebrate Work Ready Graduates
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Building Work Ready Graduates

GOALS

Become A Designated Work Ready Community

ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC) empowers communities and states with process, data and tools deployed in a common workforce development framework to drive economic growth by certifying communities as "work ready" when established goals are attained.

Think of it as a docking station where all participants plug into the common community-level ACT Work Ready Community criteria as part of establishing community goals.

Work Ready Graduate Program

Robertson County Schools, Robertson Education Initiative, Robertson County Economic Development Board and the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce have assembled a committee to create standards that align with the Work Ready Community program which can be implemented in a classroom setting. This is not a goal education can achieve on their own. This goal will take a public private investment of time and resources.

Work Based Learning Program/ Industry Specific Internships

Robertson County Schools currently offers students the opportunity work with employers that are partnered with the school district. The students' job placement is based on one of the district's 30 Programs of Study in Career and Technical Education. Students will work during part of the school day and in some cases earn money, but more importantly students will gain real-time skills and on-the-job training to help jumpstart their careers. This program has room for growth and expansion to include manufacturing and skilled trade employers.

Celebrate Work Ready Graduates

Historically, students who graduate with scholarships, both academically and athletically, are celebrated with special ceremonies and their accolades are acknowledged at graduation. We want to host special ceremonies to celebrate students who will be graduating with a career already secured. Success looks different for every student and we think that they are all reasons to celebrate.



GIVE

Governor's Investment in
Vocational Education

The Governor's Investment in Vocational Education (GIVE) 2.0 is designed to foster long-term regional partnerships between Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), community colleges, industry, economic development/workforce agencies, and K-12 to identify and address "skills gaps" in local workforce pools.

"Our local industries are growing as expanding and many are in the process of upgrading to a higher degree of automation. Workforce availability is critical as they continue to grow. In addition, Robertson County has more than 800 new jobs coming online in the next twelve months in manufacturing, including two new industries, Puritan Manufacturing and Advanex America. Most of these jobs will require skills in the IT or advanced manufacturing cluster.", said Margot Fosnes, economic development officer for the Robertson County Economic Development Board. "The addition of these new programs to our workforce development assets will be a key factor in making sure we have the talent to fill the needs of our existing and future employers. We are grateful for the award of this significant grant to our community."

The grant application was the result of a collaborative partnership between the Robertson County Economic Development Board, Robertson County Schools Career-Technical Education, TCAT-Nashville, the Robertson County Chamber of Commerce and local industries, Bathfitter and Airtech. The process was aided tremendously by the work of the Greater Nashville Regional Council staff to draft the successful grant application.

"This investment in TCAT Nashville's Robertson County campus will provide students with new opportunities for training in some of the region's most in-demand jobs," said Michael Skipper, executive director of the Greater Nashville Regional Council. "This was a competitive grant program, and it took tremendous teamwork between all of the partners involved to ensure students have a clear pathway from high school to employment."

TCAT-Nashville was given space by Robertson County government in Springfield for a satellite location several years. After listening to the needs of local business and industry, TCAT – Nashville leadership has agreed to replace those cosmetology programs with training opportunities in advanced manufacturing/robotics, office technology and information technology. These programs will be made available to Robertson County Schools students through dual enrollment opportunities and to adult learners through TCAT-Nashville.

Building Work Ready Graduates