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## MISSION STATEMENT

*Windsor Works Alliance (WWA) advances local efforts to improve the quality of career education by building a bridge from school to work.*

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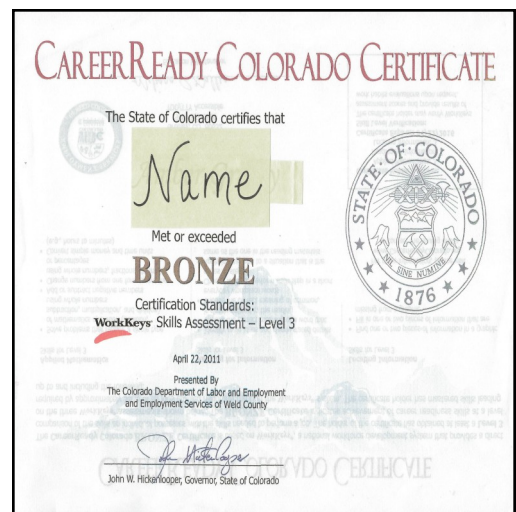
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**Volunteers needed to conduct Mock Interviews May 9th. Reply to 970-686-8078.**

## CareerReady Colorado Certification – What Employers Should Know

The CareerReady Colorado Certificate is an assessment that determines a job seeker’s skills. This certificate is signed by the Governor and was developed by the same individuals that developed the ACT test. Just as the ACT test determines an individual’s potential for success in college, the CareerReady Colorado Certificate determines an individual’s potential for success in the workplace, which can be beneficial for both job seekers as well as employers. The certificate allows the job seeker to illustrate the job skills that they possess and it allows the employer to feel confident that they are hiring someone with the qualifications that they are seeking.

There are three different work-related assessments involved in the certification, including Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information. All of these assessment areas are common work place skills that are necessary for employment success. An individual must be able to pass all three of the sections in order to receive a certification. See “CareerReady Colorado” pg 3



## CareerReady Colorado Certification Impact on WWA

Currently, 24 WWA students have earned a CareerReady Colorado Certificate. There are also numerous other students who are working on their WorkKeys training in order to achieve their certification. This certification gives WWA students the opportunity to show employers how valuable they are as future and current employees. Students are not the only ones getting in on the certification action. Faculty and staff members are also getting certified or taking the workkeys practice tests in order to prepare for the certification assessment. Employers and job seekers alike can benefit from the CareerReady Colorado Certification, and WWA is proud to support the certificate program.

WWA seeks innovative ways to prepare youth for the workforce. Providing a venue to earn CRCC is a fine example of our efforts because this certification is a unique way for young job seekers to stand out among applicants. *Submitted by Kelly Dale, WWA Intern*



*This is the first group of Windsor High School students to take the CareerReady Colorado exam. These students were enrolled in our Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE) class.*

**For more information on  
CareerReady Certification contact  
Ann Bruce at 970-353-3800 x 6726  
or visit Employment Services of  
Weld County's website at  
[www.co.weld.co.us](http://www.co.weld.co.us) and search  
"CareerReady."**

## What is Windsor Works Alliance (WWA)?

WWA was created to support Weld RE-4 career education initiatives. WWA builds partnerships with local businesses to better prepare youth for the world of work. Our Business Partners are willing to be a guest speaker in a class, lead a tour of a work site and/or provide paid or unpaid work experiences to help youth get hands on experience at an actual work setting. Teachers can create mock work settings in the classroom, but there is nothing more valuable than giving a young adult experience in the "real world."

If the afore mentioned activities are not appealing, a business can support WWA behind the scenes in many ways, including serving on an Advisory Board that sets annual goals or writing an article for the quarterly newsletter. Businesses are encouraged to suggest and help implement any of the endless possibilities that will contribute to our success. If you'd like to be a part of WWA, please contact us at 970-686-8078 or [wwa@weldre4.k12.co.us](mailto:wwa@weldre4.k12.co.us)

# WWA Partner Profile



Windsor Works Alliance would like to recognize an outstanding business partner. Weld RE-4 School District has embraced what WWA stands for by providing many opportunities for the youth in our community. Weld RE-4 Transportation, Maintenance, Nutrition Services and Print Shop have played a huge part in improving the youth work force by providing unpaid work experiences for the young people involved with Windsor Works Alliance. By assisting these youth in learning what it takes to

*Shenae completed an unpaid work experience through Nutrition Services where she learned time management, how to work as a team and customer service.*



be an exemplary employee and by providing them with the experiences to build their resume, Weld RE-4 programs have taken a step towards helping these workers succeed in future employment. Windsor Works Alliance is proud to have such a partner to help us strengthen Windsor's work force!

*"Career Ready Colorado"* Con't from page 1 If a job seeker needs more training and practice in order to pass the test they may participate in the online WorkKeys program which creates a training program for each individual based on their pretest scores. There are four levels within the certification that an individual can obtain. The Bronze level means that the job seeker has the necessary skills for about 35% of jobs in the workforce, Silver for 65% of jobs, Gold for 90% of jobs and Platinum for 99% of the jobs. Businesses from across the country are using this type of certification to assess their current employees as well as to aid them in the hiring process. Employers have found that using the CareerReady Colorado Certification in their hiring or promoting process reduces employee turnover and increases productivity and profitability. Job seekers have found that the certification clearly describes the work-applied skills they possess and offers them a skills credential that they can take with them throughout the country. There are currently 40 states that have a career readiness certificate so this gives individuals the ability to take their certification virtually anywhere. Even local business are currently using the CareerReady Colorado Certification in their hiring and promoting process. Vestas Wind Systems in Windsor require that applicants have a certain score on each of the assessments in order to be considered for a position. With this information job seekers can prepare and study for the job they want. *Submitted by Kelly Dale, WWA Intern*

## Reasons You Should Become a WWA Partner



The number one reason a business should be a WWA Partner is this- It affects your bottom line. Employers are more successful with hard-working, reliable staff.

Quality staff typically don't just land on your doorstep. This is particularly true of young and entry-level workers, who may need to develop a strong work ethic and productive workplace behaviors. WWA and our Business Partners will help mold a more effective workforce for Windsor businesses.

Some Partners may also be eligible for additional benefits such as:

- Job Coaching from WWA staff to help train one of our youth working in a paid or unpaid work experience at your place of business.
- Ongoing Support from WWA for activities such as planning a work site tour, preparing to be a guest in the classroom or implementing a successful paid or unpaid work experience.
- Tax credits or employer stipends for hiring our youth in regular, paid positions.

All of these benefits come at **NO COST** to the Business Partner.

Why wait? Becoming a WWA Partner is ridiculously simple and non-invasive for businesses. Return your WWA Profile card today by mail to 900 Main Street, D-1, Windsor, CO 80550 or via email to:

[wwa@weldre4.k12.co.us](mailto:wwa@weldre4.k12.co.us)

### WWA PROFILE CARD

Business:

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Contact:

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Phone:

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Email:

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#### I would be willing to:

- Sit on the WWA Advisory Board
- Provide guided tours of my company/business
- Provide unpaid work experience for a student
- Provide job shadowing opportunities
- Provide paid employment opportunities
- Post job openings on job board
- Be a guest speaker in a class or for an event
- Provide on-the-job training, internship
- Receive quarterly newsletter
- Other: