ATTRACTING JOBS BY HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

"Are we making progress? Yes…everybody is rallying around making sure our people are trained and well-educated."
—Phil Parker, President, Dayton Chamber of Commerce

Deeper Learning for Student Success and a Stronger Workforce:

Today's businesses are looking for applicants with some level of post-secondary degree, as well as employees who are collaborative, adapt well to challenges and have a deep understanding of core academic subjects. This is especially true for the high-wage, high-tech jobs that Dayton is working to grow, which is why the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce teamed up with local business, education and civic leaders to help bring Deeper Learning opportunities to Dayton schools. Deeper Learning uses interactive techniques such as project-based learning and real-world application to engage students in core academics and build the skills they need for success in college and career. The Chamber has worked to engage business leaders through one-on-one meetings, events and other types of outreach, leading more local businesses to volunteer time, resources and expertise to Deeper Learning initiatives. Since 2008, closing the skills gap has been included in annual strategic planning within the Chamber, with the goal of growing local jobs so that the region can become a competitive 21st century community.

Enabling Cradle to Career Support.

The Dayton Chamber recognizes that the foundation for education and career success is established long before students enter the classroom, and that different forms of support will be needed along the way. That is why Dayton's Chamber is a part of Learn to Earn, a program that works to ensure that every young person in the Dayton region is ready to learn by kindergarten and ready to earn upon graduation from college or after earning a post-high school certificate.

- Learn to Earn identifies four goals that target critical benchmarks in education:
  1. Making sure children enter kindergarten ready to learn
  2. Improving 3rd and 4th graders' reading and math proficiency
  3. Ensuring high-school graduates are prepared for college or certificate programs
  4. Increasing the number of recipients of college degrees or credentials
- The Chamber helps engage businesses at every step—bringing them on board to support programs, recruit volunteers and provide guidance on what will help close the skills gap and foster an educated workforce.
- The Chamber also supports Learn to Earn's policy agenda by sharing metrics of success from the program and encouraging support of early childhood education and other interventions.

Quick Facts: Dayton

- Unemployment Rate: 7.3%
- Key Industries:
  - Aerospace Research & Development
  - Advanced Materials & Manufacturing
  - Information Technology
  - Human Sciences & Health Care
  - Logistics & Distribution
- Projected Jobs: Nearly 8,000 skilled jobs over the next five years

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is helping to educate the future workforce by:
- Collaborating with schools and community leaders to accomplish more together
- Communicating with policymakers to ensure supportive legislation
- Providing opportunities for students that connect lessons to careers
- Supporting STEM education in the community and the state
- Assessing and sharing employer needs and the current skills gap

These efforts are supported by Chamber membership, local foundations and national award grants, as well as through the time and resources donated by businesses.

Preparing for the Industries of Tomorrow. The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to ensuring that students are exposed to and prepared for careers in science and technical industries.

- **Ohio Third Frontier Internship Program:** This internship program provides students with enriching work experiences, and assists them in obtaining permanent, full-time employment in Ohio after graduation. Internships are offered in the areas of manufacturing, advanced materials, power and propulsion, instruments, controls and electronics, bioscience and information technology—key industries in the state.

- **Learn to Earn's STEMM Programming:** The Chamber works closely with partners to make sure that Dayton continues to be recognized as a center for Science, Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing, and Mathematics (STEMM) education. Learn to Earn's STEMM programming is designed to fit Dayton's unique culture and strengths, while also creating momentum throughout the region by supporting the adoption and implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The program has also reached more than 900 teachers, representing 92 school districts state-wide, for training in STEM-specific curricula and instruction.

- **Learn To Earn Employer Survey:** In order to further support the industries of Ohio and provide evidence to policymakers of the importance of student success, the Chamber partnered with several organizations to develop a survey that asked employers to assess their needs and provide their perspectives on the expectations and requirements of Dayton's workforce.

Partnerships for Deeper Learning

For years, community organizations, universities and businesses were supporting education advancements in their own ways. In 2006, they came together, recognizing that their impact would be more powerful and more immediate if they aligned their efforts and shared ideas and resources.

The following organizations are represented on the leadership council for Learn to Earn:

- Air Force Research Laboratories
- Archdiocese of Cincinnati
- CareSource
- Creative World Child Care
- Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
- Dayton Business Committee
- Dayton City Commission
- Dayton Development Coalition
- Dayton Foundation
- Dayton Public Schools
- East End Community Service
- Frank M. Tait Foundation
- Generation Dayton
- Kettering Public Schools
- Mathile Family Foundation
- Montgomery County Educational Services
- Montgomery County
- Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
- NAACP
- Premier Health Partners
- Sinclair Community College
- SOCHE
- United Way of Dayton
- University of Dayton
- Vectren
- Updayton
- Wright State University

Deeper Learning uses interactive techniques such as project-based learning and real-world application to engage students in core academics and build the skills they need for success in college and career.

Your Chamber can help students become the innovative, collaborative and flexible employees that employers are looking for by partnering with schools to provide Deeper Learning opportunities.

Visit www.learntoearndayton.org to learn more.