



## STRATEGIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### EDC-7 State of the Practice/ Implementation Plan Form

Below are the EDC-7 progress report questions and schedule.

Report	Reporting Period	Due from Division Offices
<a href="#">Baseline Report #1</a>	Current status as of April 2023	COMPLETED!
Progress Report #2	May 2023 through April 2024 (1 year)	COMPLETED!
Progress Report #3	May 2024 through October 2024 (6 months)	COMPLETED!
<a href="#">Final Progress Report #4</a>	November 2024 through April 2025 (6 months)	May 16, 2025

Progress Report Questions:	
1) If there has been NO CHANGE on this innovation during this reporting period and the previous Report is still accurate, select "No Change from last Progress Report" and you do not need to complete Questions 2-5.	(Choice) <input type="checkbox"/> No Change from last Progress Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Changes indicated in Progress Report Below
2) What is the State's current stage of innovation implementation?  Review your past progress report responses and the Implementation Stage Definitions on page 1.	(Choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Not Implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Development Stage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstration Stage <input type="checkbox"/> Assessment Stage <input type="checkbox"/> Institutionalized
3) Describe the State's accomplishments for this reporting period (State DOT, local agency, and transportation partners accomplishments).  -- If advanced to the next implementation stage, consider the prompt questions in the chart and explain the advancements made to support your selection.  -- Please include benefits as part of your explanation (i.e. time/cost savings, delay/crash reductions, etc.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Summer 2024, OJT expanded the NCDOT Transportation Summer Accelerator to four school districts: Brunswick County (DOH 3), Cleveland County (DOH 12), Halifax County (DOH 4) and Yancey County (DOH 13). <b>35 students attended, 27 have completed all requirements for pre-apprentice registration, of the eight who did not complete, one moved to another state, two were repeat attendees, two were impacted by Hurricane Helene and still do not have internet access to complete paperwork, three have not completed credentials.</b></li><li>2. TSA Monthly activities began in September with an Apprenticeship Awareness Seminar. October hurricanes prevented October activities from occurring in three of our schools. <b>Monthly activities continue through May 2025.</b></li><li>3. <b>Twelve school districts continue MOA discussions for Summer 2025 and school year 2025/2026.</b></li><li>4. <b>Between November 2024 and May 2025, the OJT-EWPA attended 39 career/education day events that touched approximately 21,000 middle/high school students.</b></li></ol>



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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. In April 2025, Nash Community College and Nash County Public Schools held orientation and started the 2025 Transportation Summer Accelerator, the first of the summer.</li><li>6. OJT Staff partnered with State Employee Credit Union to offer financial literacy training for all TSA students utilizing their existing youth outreach program.</li><li>7. September 2024, the first TSA graduate started work in Division 13 as a high school intern. In January 2025, this intern accepted a full time position as Temporary Transportation Worker I with Yancey County Maintenance in Division 13.</li><li>8. In January 2025, OJT Staff continued discussions with public school districts to include course credits for the TSA program. Students are eligible for a Pre-Apprentice credit and a Work-based Learning credit after completing the TSA program in all partnering districts.</li></ol>
4) Describe any implementation challenges or lessons learned. Also, indicate if and how your state and transportation partners can assist others in their implementation of this innovation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Procurement and processing of sex offender registry checks for individuals working with youth</li><li>2. Incorporating stipends into the program now that ESSERS funds are expired for school systems</li><li>3. Coordinating internship and direct hire opportunities for TSA completers with contractors</li></ol>
5) Describe any additional assistance needed by your state or partners.	(open discussion)



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The below table is meant to provide a means to define the implementation stages that will be used throughout the 2-years of EDC-7 deployment. These definitions are used when capturing your baseline, progress, and final reports for each of the innovations and were developed to provide consistency between states in measuring the deployment progress of an innovation.

<b>Innovation Implementation Stage Definitions</b> <i>*State is all-inclusive (e.g., state transportation agency, local municipalities, contractors, consultants)</i>	<b>Guidance Questions</b> Prompt questions to help assess your current state of practice.  <b>NOTE: Not all questions have to be affirmatively answered to meet any given stage; judgment is required; call the Deployment Team w/ questions.</b>
<b>Not Implemented:</b>  The State* has not started implementation planning for the Strategic Workforce Development (SWD) innovation.	The State has not implemented this innovation because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The State doesn't believe workforce levels are at risk.</li><li>• The State lacks resources (human, financial, or technological) for implementation.</li><li>• Industry within the State has not expressed interest in participating.</li><li>• The State can't find an organization to take the lead.</li><li>• At this time, the State isn't interested in learning more.</li></ul>
<b>Development Stage:</b>  The State* is developing an implementation process and building support by participating in webinars and peer exchanges and collecting guidance and best practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does the State have an implementation champion or working group?</li><li>• Is the partnership documenting lessons learned and best practices, and/or developing a framework to address critical construction workforce needs in the State?</li><li>• Is the State developing a Memorandum of Understanding or charter between the statewide partners?</li><li>• Have partners participated in workshops, webinars, or peer exchanges on construction workforce development?</li><li>• Has the State received technical assistance from the EDC SWD team for implementing the innovation?</li><li>• Have the near-term and long-term contractor workforce needs of the State been evaluated?</li></ul>
<b>Demonstration Stage:</b>  The State is testing/piloting the Strategic Workforce Development innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are State partners attending and/or co-sponsoring career fairs, construction career days or other similar events?</li><li>• Has the State identified a pool of candidates for its specific workforce needs?</li><li>• Has the State started recruitment, training and/or placement efforts?</li><li>• Has the State developed a program pilot to address workforce problems facing the construction contractors within your State?</li><li>• Has the State applied for, or received, grant funding (e.g. STIC, AID Demo, Highway Construction Workforce Partnership) to pilot components of its Strategic Workforce partnership?</li></ul>



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<b>Assessment Stage:</b>  The State* is assessing the performance of the innovation and adjusting any processes for full deployment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is the State considering regular use of the piloted strategy?</li><li>• Does the State have an effective strategy to evaluate efforts to address contractor workforce needs?</li><li>• Has the State incorporated workforce clauses or incentives into its construction contracts? If so, can the State share examples?</li><li>• Is the State evaluating the barriers experienced when individuals are not advancing in the program?</li></ul>
<b>Institutionalized:</b>  The state has adopted the innovation as a standard practice and uses it regularly on projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The State's workforce development efforts are standard programs and funded.</li><li>• The State's workforce development efforts and results are well documented and can be shared with others.</li><li>• State partners are willing to mentor others setting up similar programs.</li><li>• The State seeks to expand existing workforce programs in the near future.</li></ul>

#### Deployment Team Contact Information

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